P.S. Local Authorities - CAPE

1998
Transforming the city council from within
Kriel's power grab may sow seeds of his downfall

Western Cape premier stakes his political future on his provincial power base. But it could come to naught if he fails to deliver

Ever since Cape Town lost the 2004 Olympic bid, the Western Cape's National Party (NP)-dominated government has been behaving as if the province is its fiefdom in perpetuity — and to hell with the consequences.

When former NP leader F W de Klerk took the party out of the Government of National Unity in 1996, the Cape Nats — led by premier Hermus Kriel — conspicuously chose to retain the unity principle at provincial level.

Indeed, Kriel at that stage foresaw provincial unity enduring well into the next century.

The implication was the Cape Nationalists were not in lockstep with their national counterparts, and knew what was best for the Western Cape.

Late last year, however, the pretence began to unravel and has now formally been abandoned.

As ratified by the Constitutional Court, the regional constitution makes no provision for a government of provincial unity, and Kriel has served notice on the ANC members of the executive council that they must depart by January 15, when the regional law comes into effect and they are replaced by NP, Democratic Party (DP) and African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) Ministers.

The split was first signalled by the ANC's refusal to vote for the 1997-1998 provincial budget, which legislated for a deficit of R247m despite objections from Finance Minister Trevor Manuel.

The provincial deficit, in fact, exceeds R1bn, with the worst effects being felt in education and health.

The split intensified with arguments over the provincial constitution, which the ANC rejected. The upshot was the ANC refused to accept an offer by Kriel for two ministerial positions and the premier has announced his ostracism of the smaller parties.

Outgoing Health MEC Ebrahim Rasool (ANC) says the DP and ACDP have been given 17% representation in the 12-member provincial cabinet, while the ANC enjoys 33% electoral support in the province but now holds no executive posts.

In the ethnically divided Western Cape, this means the 1m African population of Greater Cape Town — many of its residents in informal settlements with scant access to health or housing — has in effect been cut adrift from executive consideration.

Accordingly, the ANC has vowed to mount a widespread protest action against what it describes as entrenched white privilege.

In fact, the flow of the provincial resources has favoured the coloured population as well as whites — and the National Party relies mainly on coloured support for what it appears to regard as an unsalable base.

The Western Cape was the birthplace of the ANC-aligned United Democratic Front (UDF) in the Eighties, which drew much of its leadership from the coloured intelligentsia.

That phase appeared to have passed by 1994, when a majority of coloureds voted NP. But if the ANC can organise credibly — under the leadership of someone more charismatic than Justice Minister Dullah Omar (Rasool is tipped to be the new leader) — then it could well regain support as coloured and black communities surehere in an alliance against a common marginalisation.

It would have served Kriel's political survival best if Rasool had been retained in Health, which goes to Pieter Marais (NP), and if Education had been given to an ANC figure such as Chris Nissen. The entirely ineffectual Martha Ockers (NP) has been relieved of Education and replaced by Nick Koorhof (NP), who will move across from the National Assembly.

Kriel's new team is not impressive. Apart from the troublesome portfolios of Health and Education, where the NP will now have to take the blame for failures in delivery,

Community Safety (formerly Police) will remain with Gerald Morkel (NP), of whose abilities the Cape Times remarks, "Would that the community were safe. (Morkel's) department has been singularly unsuccessful in curbing gangsternism on the Cape Flats. The formation of Pagad would not have been necessary had the police been more effective."

While Kriel had ANC members in his cabinet, he was safe enough blaming central government for under-funding and concomitant crises in key social services. Now he will be specifically targeted for such failures by the ANC, who will be able to rely on mounting discontent among poorer communities.

An early casualty could be the relocation of parliament to another province, since Western Cape ANC members could be less inclined than before to fight for its retention.

Perhaps, however, this is of minor importance to Kriel. He appears to be calculating that the NP will fragment in the 1999 election — except in his territory. If so, that would not just make him leader of the sole undisputed Nationalist province, but serve to eclipse the NP's new and untired leader, Marthinus van Schalkwyk, the floundering successor to De Klerk.

All that could stem this dream would be such a dramatic failure by Kriel's NP to serve its traditional Cape constituencies that the ANC is widely seen as a functioning alternative to the Western Cape Nats. That realisation may take quite some time to dawn — hence the seeming complacency of Kriel and his cronies.
Proposal for one 'megacity'
heading for stormy passage

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH
METRO EDITOR

HACKLES are rising in council corridors across the Cape Metropolitan Area as councillors and officials grapple with the green paper on local government's proposals for the formation of a single city or "megacity" to govern the entire area.

"This comes scarcely six months after the current two-tier system rose from the ashes of 18 different administrations in one of the biggest unbundling exercises ever to take place in an organisation — public or private — in the Western Cape.

And at the African National Congress' national conference in December, the megacity model was endorsed by the governance commission after a scant five-minute debate. This as good as guarantees its inclusion in the white paper.

Critics at central government level say the current Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) and six Metropolitan Local Councils have failed to redistribute wealth and are expensive.

But National Party and Democratic Party councillors say the system has not been given a chance.

A megacity, they say, will simply take local government further away from ratepayers, affect the quality of services and lower the morale of 31 000 council employees already suffering from "transition fatigue".

"Imagine the current metropolitan area (which stretches from the Strand through Somerset West, to Atlantis and back down through Cape Town to Cape Point) becoming one municipality serving three-million people," said the chairperson of the CMC's executive committee, NP councillor Mr Pierre Uys.

At the moment, about 300 councillors represent ratepayers in the Cape Metropolitan Area.

"The single city system would be almost unworkable, with anything from 60 to at most 100 councillors serving the whole metropole. How would they be accountable? How would they serve constituencies of 30 000 people adequately and how would they be able to uplift communities?" asked Uys.

"Snowed-under politicians would simply hand over the reins to officials, allowing a "30 000 strong bureaucracy" to run the show."

DP councillor Mr Gordon Merrington said: "We're in the middle of a major upheaval and services have already suffered. Can you imagine what will happen if we scrap all this and start again?"

But those pining the single city — one of four options outlined in the green paper — say it would avoid duplication, dramatically cut costs and result in a leaner administration.

Most importantly, it would redistribute resources from rich and plain-ly white suburbs to poor black townsships, they say.

"We need one city, one entity, one standard and equality," said ANC councillor on the CMC Mr Mzukisi Gaba.

"Just think of the administrative costs involved in running the CMC and the six local authorities.

"One city would go a long way to streamlining this," Gaba said.

A member of the white paper portfolio committee pointed out that the current system was never intended to be the last.

"It began with the understanding that the status quo was merely part of the transition. Our immediate problem was to democratise and stabilise local government as soon as we could — and then take time working carefully towards an ideal now system."

And it seems as though local councils will have little choice in the matter.

"The division of powers and functions of the metropole and local authorities was a locally negotiated compromise. From a national point of view it represents very parochial interests. Local government is of national importance — it's where economic growth happens and we have to get it right now while things are still quite fluid."

Parliamentary public hearings on the white paper on local government will be held next month.
Pension rescue for Eastern Cape

CHRISTO VOLSCHENK
ECONOMICS EDITOR

Cape Town — Trevor Manuel, the finance minister, and his welfare counterpart, Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, have found a short-term solution to the cashflow crisis encountered by the Eastern Cape government, but details of the rescue package or the possible implications on the Budget were not released yesterday.

The Eastern Cape's money problems led to the non-payment of pensions to 632 000 pensioners last week.

All outstanding pensions would be paid but no extra money would be allocated to the province from the national government, Fraser-Moleketi said.

Fraser-Moleketi said she would announce tomorrow how the cash crisis would be solved.

She said that "some progress" had been made in negotiations with Manuel to help the provincial government fund the welfare in the financial year.

In the Eastern Cape alone the over-expenditure on welfare could amount to R800 million, the ministry said, with KwaZulu-Natal estimated to overspend by R411 million and Northern Province by another R436 million.

Manuel reportedly told Fraser-Moleketi and the Eastern Cape welfare MEC Mandisa Masheka that the cash crisis was a problem to be solved by the welfare ministry and the provinces.

He reasoned that provinces decide how they want to spend the lump sums allocated to them by the national government.

It is not clear what went wrong with the budgeting process in the Eastern Cape, but a spokesman in the finance ministry said "it was not necessarily an allocation problem", sparking speculation that administrative deficiencies and ghost pensioners might have led to mis-spending of money.

PAYOUT Welfare minister
Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi

R800 million it needed to pay out pensions in the last three months of the current financial year.

Budget-watchers speculated that Manuel might have agreed to short-term relief in the form of a guarantee on a bank overdraft.

The welfare ministry estimated that the nine provinces would overspend about R1.5 billion on welfare this year.
but Ramattakante renamed Road anyway

Krishnaih Mals Madaba Tribute

All 4 July 1998 (263)
Kriel gets his new constitution

Protests as signing marks end of office for ANC four

CLIVE SAWYER AND BLACKMAN NGORO
Staff Reporters

Premier Hernus Kriel today signed the new Western Cape constitution into law, irrevocably changing the tone of politics in the province in the 14 months run-up to the next election.

The constitution brings to an end compulsory power-sharing in the provincial cabinet and signals the end of office for former African National Congress provincial cabinet ministers.

Protesting ANC supporters outside the provincial headquarters forced the removal of a red carpet for arriving dignitaries from busy Wale Street to the underground parking entrance in front of Koevoet Street.

The demonstrators carried placards reading "Kriel goes backwards" and "No to Kriel's Apartheid Constitution".

Dozens of police with riot shields stood guard outside the building.

The brief signing ceremony was attended by VIPs, including members of the provincial legislature, their spouses and senior police and defence force officers.

Speaking during the ceremony, Mr. Kriel said by producing its own constitution the Western Cape had ensured that a liberal democracy was establishing itself at the southern tip of Africa. This liberal democracy meant hope for the future through the entrenchment of basic freedoms and individual rights. "We can be proud that the Cape of Good Hope has become the anchor of democracy through its unique provincial constitution."

The constitution was a symbol of hope and confidence in the future, Mr. Kriel said. It had a number of unique features, including:

- a provision for provincial symbols
- the principle of a market-driven economy
- The constitution also provided for minority rights and stipulated Afrikaans, English and Xhosa as official languages.

Outside the building, ANC supporters milled around, waiting to hear speeches due to be made by the ANC's leader in the Western Cape, Justice Minister Dullah Omar, as well as by the outgoing ANC members of the executive, Chris Nissen, Lerumo Kalako, Leonard Ramatlakane and Ibrahim Rasool.

Fareda Omar said the National Party did not understand what nation-building or democracy was about.

"They are still steeped in their apartheid beliefs of white domination. We will fight all that," she said.

The ANC pledged to "fight relentlessly for the total eradication of racism from all sectors of our society, to build a broad opposition to National Party rule in the Western Cape, and to work with our national and local government, building on the foundation which has been laid by the ANC for a better life for all."

NP masters of corruption, says outgoing Nissen

BLACKMAN NGORO
Staff Reporter

Firing his last salvo in office, outgoing provincial Economic Affairs Minister Chris Nissen accused the National Party of "mastering the art of corruption."

"There is a huge conspiracy where whites in the National Party seek to entrench white privilege by any means possible," the African National Congress minister said.

"Corruption is rampant here. It's no better than most of the African states to whom whites try to preach good governance."

Mr. Nissen said it was "a sad day for the Western Cape that we don't have an African in the government. It creates the feeling that it is whites and coloureds against Africans."

"It would have been better to have had a spokesman for the African community. But you can't just look at the colour issue, it is performance that counts."

He also said he wanted the Western Cape's underprivileged to continue to benefit from the reconstruction and development programmes.

Mr. Nissen's successor, Hennie Bester of the Democratic Party, said the DP had tried its best to get Premier Hernus Kriel to include an African in the provincial cabinet.

Mr. Bester said he was also committed to continuing the RDP programme.

"We are going to expand the programme in the poor segments of the community," he said.

"Kriel knows that we are committed to uplifting the standards of the people in the coloured and black communities. He knows my party's position."

"My department is entirely involved with the coloured and black communities. This will continue," he said.

Meanwhile, ANC provincial secretary James Ngcuku has compared the signing of the new provincial constitution by Mr. Kriel today to Ian Smith's Unilateral Declaration of Independence in Rhodesia.

He said, "This is going to cost us jobs. We are going to get increasingly isolated. Investors will shun this province and we will be the losers."

"This is no time to celebrate. This is a reactionary constitution. It seeks to undermine the democratically elected national government."

"It is a black day for democracy. Our people should stand up and oppose it," he said.

James Ngcuku: This will cost jobs
Cape Town Police are investigating a number of incidents, including the death of a 16-year-old boy during a protest in Mitchells Plain yesterday.

The boy, who was not a protestor, was pronounced dead at the scene. Police says the boy was shot in the back of the neck and had a single gunshot wound to the head.

Both parties claim they were dead at the scene. The police do not know of any law enforcement officers involved in the shooting.
W. Cape constitution becomes law

Cape Town – The Western Cape's provincial constitution was signed into law by Premier Hermaas Kriel yesterday at a ceremony boycotted by the ANC.

The constitution – certified by the Constitutional Court late last year as complying with the national constitution – provides for Kriel to constitute his own cabinet, breaking up the government of provincial unity stipulated by the 1993 national interim constitution.

The ANC had four MECs out of 10 under the latter arrangement, but has chosen to be excluded from the new 12-member provincial cabinet to be sworn in on Monday.

The ANC declined to take up two posts offered to it by Kriel, arguing that as the second biggest party in the province in terms of the 1994 general election, it should have been entitled to at least the four seats it had previously.

The Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party have one post each in the new cabinet, with the NP occupying the other positions.

After signing the new constitution in the council chamber at the provincial legislature in Cape Town, Kriel handed a copy to the Judge President of the Western Cape, Mr Justice Gerald Friedman.

"Kriel has said the signing of the constitution – the first provincial one to become law in South Africa – heralded a new era in the country's constitutional process.

"We are making use of a constitutional right which can promote the eventual coming into being of a fully fledged federal dispensation."

The ANC, pointing out that the new cabinet would consist of eight whites and four coloureds, and no Africans, accused Kriel and his NP of "nothing less than racism."

About 200 ANC and SA Communist Party supporters sang and chanted in a peaceful protest outside the provincial legislature building while the signing ceremony was under way.

There was a strong police presence. – Sapa
Western Cape constitution marks end of NP, ANC power-sharing

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape premier Hernus Kriel's signing into law yesterday of the provincial constitution marked the end of three years of compulsory power-sharing between the National Party (NP) and the African National Congress (ANC).

While the signing ceremony was taking place in the provincial legislature building, about 200 ANC and SA Communist Party supporters outside conducted a peaceful protest in the presence of a strong police contingent.

The ANC pulled out of the power-sharing arrangement after rejecting the NP’s offer of two posts in the new 12-member cabinet to be sworn in next Monday. The ANC argued that, as the second-biggest party in the province after the 1984 general election, it was entitled to at least the four posts it had in the previous 10-member cabinet.

The Democratic Party and the African Christian Democratic Party will each have one post.

In what is seen as a return to protest politics in the province, the ANC has vowed openly to defy the NP in a “new struggle” for political liberation.

The Western Cape constitution was ratified by the Constitutional Court late last year as complying with the national constitution. It provides for Kriel to form his own cabinet, breaking up the government of provincial unity as required under the 1993 national interim constitution.

Kriel said yesterday that the signing of the constitution — the first provincial one to become law in SA — marked a new era in the country's constitutional process. "The Western Cape has ensured through its own constitution that a liberal democracy is establishing itself at the southern tip of Africa. The province brought hope for the future through the entrenchment of basic freedoms and rights."

He said the constitution had a number of unique features, including the principle of a market-driven economy, a commissioner on the environment, and a children’s commissioner. It also provided for minority rights and stipulated English, Afrikaans and Xhosa as official languages.

The ANC accused the NP of choosing a path of conflict by ending the government of provincial unity and "kicking out" the ANC MECs. Pointing out that the new cabinet would consist of eight whites, four coloureds and no blacks, the ANC accused Kriel and the NP of "nothing less than racism." The NP had chosen a path which ran against nation-building.

Picture Page 2
ANC's last government voice to be silenced today

I'm being booted out – Deputy Speaker

BLACKMAN NGUBO
STAFF REPORTER

The only surviving African National Congress office-bearer in the Western Cape provincial government, Deputy Speaker Mampe Ramotsamai, is expected to be ousted by majority vote today.

The National Party is expected to introduce a motion to replace her.

Towards the end of last year, Speaker Willem Doman introduced Nick Isaacs, the man expected to take over from her, to his staff.

Mr Isaacs comes from the old tripartite parliament.

Ms Ramotsamai denounced the anticipated move as "underhand and typical of the way the National Party does its things".

"Nobody has informed me that I have to hand over to anybody. These people have been doing things without any consultation," she said.

The Speaker is a man I have regarded as a colleague, but Isaacs has already been in my office and spoken to the staff, but never to me. It's like there's nothing to hand over."

She described her relations with Mr Doman until now as "cordial".

Ms Ramotsamai said the ANC would oppose the expected motion.

"We want to emphasise to the people that we haven't left the government of unity, nor have we walked out. We have been kicked out."

She said she was interested to see how the Democratic Party and the African Christian Democratic Party, "the new-found allies of the National Party", were going to vote, since they had not opposed her election.

Ms Ramotsamai criticised the expansion of the provincial cabinet, describing it as "grandiose" after Premier Hernus Kriel's call for "meaner and leaner" government.

"This is what this provincial constitution is all about – accommodating and rewarding National Party politicians of yesteryear."
Witless will get more under new minister

Rasool, Mat successor in takeover tussle

(363) HAG 13/11/98

The Times, Monday 13 November 1998

Witless will get more under new minister

Rasool, Mat successor in takeover tussle
Fighting back ANC MP Flemish Rasool

With the freedom discussion and dread
Westerrn Cape together, our chant fits
on the people. So far, the people of the
Wesern Cape have been moved by the
people's struggle. The ANC's agenda
in the Western Cape area is clear.

Photo: John Fourie

Kreis's Giant Leap Backwards

What are we seeing in the Western Cape
province? Are we seeing a giant leap
backwards? The Western Cape has
been rocked by a series of events
that have left many people confused.

The ANC MP, Flemish Rasool, has
sparked controversy with his recent
speech. He has accused the Western
Cape government of failing to address
the needs of the people adequately.

Flemish Rasool's comments have
caused a stir in the Western Cape,
where he is seen as a key figure in the
ANC's efforts to gain power.

The Western Cape has been
plagued by corruption and
mismanagement in recent years,
with Flemish Rasool's comments
highlighting the extent of the
problem.

The ANC, which has been in
government in the Western Cape
for many years, has been criticized
for its failure to deliver on its
promises to the people.

Flemish Rasool's speech has
prompted debate about the
ANC's future in the Western Cape,
with some calling for the party to
be replaced by a new, more
effective movement.

The Western Cape is a
crucial area for the ANC's survival,
with the party's performance in the
province likely to have a significant
impact on its national prospects.
ANC officials will lose jobs, warns Kriel

Linda Emsor
CAPE TOWN — Key officials in the Western Cape administration appointed by former African National Congress (ANC) MECs would "undoubtedly" lose their jobs, premier Hermus Kriel said yesterday.

Reshuffles are expected in the departments of health, welfare, transport, public works and economic affairs. These departments received new MECs after the dissolution of the government of provincial unity and the ANC's refusal to participate in Kriel's new all-party cabinet. The 12 members of the reconstituted cabinet took oath of office yesterday.

Kriel said it was "normal" for top personnel appointed by previous MECs, in this case ANC members, to lose their top jobs to new political appointees. They would not be retrenched but transferred back to the departments.

Particularly vulnerable appear to be the chief director of health, Farred Abdullah, a vocal ANC supporter; district health directors and welfare director Virginia Peterson.

The new health MEC, Pati Mabsha, said: "There is no place in my department for those whose first loyalty is to the ANC or (Ebrahim) Rasool." Marais's ANC predecessor "They will have to pack up and clear their desks."

Rasool, leader of the ANC in the legislature, said it would be "absolutely undesirable" if competent professionals who had displayed a clarity of policy, administrative ability and integrity were sidelined for political reasons.

Marais planned to "refocus" the provincial health strategy from Rasool's emphasis on the primary health care sector. He wanted "greater equity" and a balance of funding between the primary sector and secondary hospitals. Private companies and individuals would be called upon to make contributions to upgrade hospitals.

As the only National Party (NP) health MEC in the country, Marais predicted an "interesting exchange" with Health Minister Nkosazana Zuma, who had so far been unopposed at meetings with all the health MECs.

Former NP MP Patrick McKenzie, who took over the provincial local government portfolio from Marais, has priorities include the debate over a megacity — an idea he opposes; the redemarcation of wards in preparation for the election, and the division of the assets of the former municipal councils which were amalgamated to form metropolitan councils.

New finance and agriculture MEC Lampse Pick saw his major challenge as streamlining cash flow and implementing a programme to eliminate this year's budget deficit — estimated at about R1bn — within three years. To do this "would" involve cost-cutting across all departments.

Other members of the cabinet include: Homile Bester (trade, industry and tourism), Gerald Morkel (police); Kobus Meiring (planning and general administration); Martha Ockers (environmental affairs and culture); Cecil Herandez (housing); Arnold de Jager (social services); Petrus Meyer (transport and labour); Nick Koornhof (education and sport), and Michael Louis (asset management and public works).
Fick plan to use assets in private sector deals

W Cape bail-out bid

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

Newly appointed Western Cape Finance Minister Lampie Fick plans to use valuable province-owned properties in joint ventures, yielding millions of rand, to help the province out of its cash-flow crisis.

Also planned is a crackdown on waste and excessive spending.

Mr Fick will meet provincial finance management today, a day after taking office, for a full briefing on the Western Cape's financial position.

Mr Fick said it was expected that the province would turn in a deficit budget for the next two financial years, but it was hoped that it would break even in the 2000/01 financial year.

He will present his first budget on March 18, a week after Finance Minister Trevor Manuel announces his Budget.

Mr Fick inherits a deficit budget, with the province having plunged into financial and political controversy last year after budgeting for a deficit when its share of national revenue was slashed by R780 million.

By October last year, as it became evident the province would go into the red before this financial year was out, departments were ordered to cut spending.

Projections are that the Western Cape will slide into "negative cash flow" next month, with a balance about R118 million in the red. This will plunge further the following month to about R780 million.

The province has undertaken to honour salary and pension cheques.

The Western Cape is to ask the Finance Department to advance funds from next year's Budget, pinning its hopes on the precedent set by the assistance given by Pretoria to Mpumalanga and the Eastern Cape.

Mr Fick said it was probable he would make some changes to the draft budget for next year inherited from Kobus Meyer.

"My approach will be to support the sectors which can make the economy grow," he said "Tourism is one, agriculture is another."

The other side of the coin would be to discipline spending, in particular to ensure proper financial management in big-spending departments.

Mr Fick declined to comment on specific departments, but in the past there has been concern about inadequate control of spending by the health and education departments.

Asked whether assets would be sold off, Mr Fick said he would be working closely with the newly appointed Minister for Asset Management, Michael Lous, on joint ventures with the private sector, into which the province would enter using assets as equity.
Race politics return to the shade of Table Mountain

Ebrahim Rasool, tipped to become the ANC's next Western Cape leader, speaks of future battles in the land of the "Afrikaners"

The windows were again shuttered in Cape Town's chic St. George's Mall last week as Western Cape premier Hermus Kriel signed into law the new provincial constitution. The shopkeepers need not have alarmed the tourists too much — the crowd of demonstrators that gathered in Wale Street to shout their disapproval of Kriel's coup was small, perhaps a little over 200 people. They were, however, almost all black, signalling the return of race-based politics to the Cape.

The regional basic law — engineered by Kriel and, after a hiccough, ratified by the Constitutional Court — disbanded real power-sharing at provincial level. The premier has cut the ANC out of his 12-person cabinet.

With virtually token representation by the Democratic Party and the minuscule African Christian Democratic Party, the new order is dominated by the National Party (NP), with the ANC ensconced in opposition even as its hegemony at central level is tightened (Current Affairs January 9).

Former Health MEC Ebrahim Rasool (35) puts his finger on a common perception when he describes the Cape Nats as "unreconstructed". They lack "a commitment to transformation".

While Rasool — as the new leader of the opposition in the provincial legislature — intends to co-operate with the NP when they are aiming at common goals, he shares at least some of the views articulated by the street demonstrators that Kriel is a recidivist on social spending and upliftment, and, at worst, toys with the idea of a form of volksraad.

In the run-up to the 1996 local authority election, Pieter Marais (NP), who takes over Health from Rasool, said publicly that the Western Cape "belongs" to what he called the Afrikaans — that is whites and coloureds with a common language. Afrikaners "Afrikaners in such a vision would be marginalised or excluded. The greater Cape Town area is home to at least 1m Africans, many locked into poverty and the sordid squatter encampments that scar the region. Under apartheid, these people were subject to influx control in what was an official white and coloured labour preference area, and had no representation in the incameraal parliament."

The ANC frequently charges that public-sector affirmative action has deliberately ignored Africans, and even that housing subsidy schemes favour coloureds in terms of legislation drawn up long before 1994.

On cue, a far higher profile has been return to the streets could trigger a re-racialisation of Cape politics poor Africans vs relatively better-off coloureds and whites. The ANC, while aware of this danger, continues to hold to its nonracial ideals. But there will be increasing ethnic conflict as the 1999 election draws nearer. The Cape NP will unquestionably employ the propaganda weapon of fears of "engulfment" by African newcomers.

A further problem for the ANC is that it has been unfortunate in selecting provincial leaders. First there was Allan Boesak, then came Chris Nissen, who never indicated much more than desperate uneasiness with the role, and now there is Justice Minister Dullah Omar. However, moves are afoot to elect Rasool to this key post — and to give him enough time to make a difference before next year's poll.

Rasool suggests that his mooted candidacy is "a bit premature." However, certain "people have asked me to be available," he says, and, if asked, "I will consider the matter seriously." A provincial ANC congress is scheduled for September — which would not leave any new leader much time to prepare for the election — but Rasool indicates that the conference might be brought forward.

For his part, Omar has indicated that he would like to give his full attention to his ministerial duties — which would appear to open the door for Rasool.

A forceful speaker — very much in command of the facts — Rasool seems the logical candidate. He has firm views on the future of the NP itself: "There is a desperation that Kriel has been the chief architect of withdrawing NP resources into the Western Cape."

For example, when Roelf Meyer — tasked with reforming the Nationalists by F W de Klerk — proposed enlisting greater black support, Kriel simply continued to demonise blacks, and Meyer was forced out, followed shortly — for more complicated reasons — by De Klerk himself. Marticus van Schalkwyk, in Rasool's view, "was put in to compete with Roelf — to retain white support from defecting to Roelf or growing despondent. So the NP is being run from the Western Cape and Kriel is happy."

However, "If the NP can't deliver, the ANC must be an effective and vigorous opposition. The ANC will be a pressure group for service delivery, a direct conduit between the people and service delivery — not a desperate opposition. That is the key."
Kriel is set to quit as West Cape premier

HENRY LUDSKI

ST 26/11/98

WESTERN Cape Premier Hernus Kriel looks set to quit his post, possibly as early as next month.

Kriel is expected to announce his resignation at the opening of the provincial legislature on February 9. His departure could pave the way for the provincial government to get its first coloured leader.

A senior NP source said this week, "By stepping down now, Kriel would allow his replacement to build up a profile during the campaign for the 1999 elections."

Kriel's spokesman, Chris Koole, said on Friday that the premier had "no intention of getting out of politics."

He did not comment, however, on speculation that he was considering resigning as premier. Peter Marais, health MEC for the Western Cape and a key player in Kriel's new cabinet, was quick to say yesterday that if a "vacancy" for the position of premier came up, he would make himself available.

"If the party decides I'm good enough for the job, or popular enough to get the votes, then I am available," he said.

Speculation is that if Kriel relinquishes the premiership, he will take the strategic back-seat post of regional party chairman.

The move is seen as a political gambit by Kriel, although he would retain strategic control of the NP, his move would allow a new premier to chase the region's crucial coloured vote.

Kriel has previously indicated that he would not make himself available for a second term of office.

"If Kriel wants any longer to make this move, the new person won't have enough time to get into gear to take on the ANC," a senior Western Cape government official said this week.

Although the NP secured a 54 percent majority in the region in the 1984 elections, the 1999 general election is set to be a neck-and-neck race.

The ANC pushed their percentage of the vote up by about five percent in the 1996 local government elections in the province.

If Kriel does resign, the ANC and NP will contest next year's elections with new provincial leaders.

Franklin Sonne, South Africa's ambassador to the US, is tipped to take over the ANC's regional leadership from Justice Minister Dullah Omar Marais, who took over the job as health MEC this week, is seen as the person most likely to take over from Kriel.

But the other person in with a chance is Gerald Morkel, community security MEC.

Patrick McKenzie, local government and gambling MEC, is said to be in the running.

"Marais is more dynamic, popular and articulate than Morkel. He could be the person to draw the votes," according to a senior NP source. "He also has more of a natural affinity with the coloured community."

Morkel and McKenzie could not be reached for comment yesterday.
ANC tackles Kriel over R10-million ‘petty cash’ fund

THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS has charged Hernus Kriel with mismanaging the Western Cape budget, demanding to know why R10-million of desperately needed funds is kept for his discretionary use.

The ANC’s spokesman on finance in the Western Cape, Tasneem Essop, said she also wanted to know why the Western Cape was the only province to have such a premier’s fund.

National Party budget manager Marius Durandt said “The use of the vote is derived from critical infrastructural needs and job creation. Its uses are very broad. Any projects which create jobs fit into that.”

The projects could be initiated by government departments, institutions, members of the society and communities.

“But it’s not easy to get finance from this budget. Money will not be released until all other avenues have been exhausted.”

Mr Kriel’s spokesman, Chris Koele, said the fund was used for emergencies. It was like an office petty cash box – “if you need something quickly, you use it.”

“It is like a reserve fund,” he said. The two new NP cabinet ministers, Patrick McKenzie and Nick Koornhof, would be paid from the fund temporarily.

Ms Essop said the ANC wanted the fund scrapped.

“It is being used to push the National Party’s vote-catching exercise,” she said.

“We must shut down that discretionary fund as it is a waste of the tax payer’s money which could be better used elsewhere.”

Last year, R1.6-million of the fund was allocated to the Gambling Board, even though it had an R8-million budget of its own.

According to Mr Durandt, the additional money will help the board to get up and running and the ripple effect will create jobs.

“And if we hadn’t given money (from the fund) to Langebaan when last winter’s storms threatened the costline and some houses, the sea would have been all over the town,” he said.

Said Ms Essop “If he doesn’t use it to achieve political ends, how does he justify that the fund was used to give money to Langebaan and not to the communities whose shacks were consumed by fire?”
1999 elections. If his return to the fray does not come this year, the province will have an empty bench seat left over for another term. Second, he has indicated that his second term...
as premier

**THE DIPLOMAT**: Gerald Morkel is refined, a Nat backbencher says — but he has been accused of sitting on his hands and doing little to curb crime.

sooner, his successor will have a few months to ease into the job and plenty of time to prepare for the elections.

On a personal level, it has been said that Kriel's long political involvement has left him a little weary. He remarried last year and may want to spend more time tending the family hearth.

**DONALD PRESSLY** reports that opposition party members who joined Kriel's executive last week will keep their posts if the premier steps down.

Democratic Party provincial leader Mr Hermie Bester, MEC for Trade, Industry and Tourism, said he would work with any premier who allowed him the same flexibility.

The DP joined the executive on the condition that it would be free to criticise provincial government policy.

"One will have to reconsider our position if there is new personnel," Bester said.

The MEC for Public Works, Asset Management and Media, Mr Michael Louw of the African Christian Democratic Party, said he believed Kriel would complete his term as premier.

However, a change in incumbent would probably not affect the ACDP's participation, he said.

AT HELM: Unless he steps down earlier, Hermus Kriel's successor will be elected at the NP's provincial congress.
Megacity plan for Cape Town still in the balance

JERMAINE CRAIG
STAFF REPORTER

Cape Town is not necessarily going to become a megacity, says Valli Moosa, Minister for Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development.

He said the matter was still "very much" under discussion.

It is believed that a draft white paper on local government favours the African National Congress national position of a single-city metropolitan system, or "megacity", for the big cities.

Of the three provinces in South Africa with metropolitan government, the Western Cape and KwaZulu Natal have already rejected the megacity option.

There are claims that at the recent ANC conference in Mafikeng the party adopted the megacity option as its policy for local government.

Local government leaders in Cape Town say that having a single metropolitan council for the municipal area will mean taking local government away from the people.

There are also fears that a further restructuring process will have a detrimental effect on the morale of the 33 000 municipal workers.

"It is totally false to say that a decision has been taken when the Cabinet has not discussed the matter," said Mr Moosa from Pretoria yesterday.

He said there had been broad consultation after the release of the green paper on local government last year, and at his meeting with the local government MECs of all nine provinces this week, various considerations and options had been discussed.

"There is broad consensus now in South African society that metropolitan government must act as a redistributive mechanism and metropolitan government must be able to ensure equity across the entire metropolitan area."

The Western Cape MEC for local government, Patrick McKenzie, yesterday convened a urgent meeting with all local government roleplayers in the province to discuss the issue.

Mr McKenzie said there was a "strong feeling" in most quarters that the only option on the table was the megacity one, but said Mr Moosa had come up with a new proposal at the meeting with MECs after lengthy discussions.

He said Mr Moosa had discussed amending the white paper to make provision for a single municipality with various sub-committees with delegated powers.

But this would mean only one mayor and one budget for the municipality. This would in effect be little different from a megacity form of government.

A megacity meeting to explain the concept to ratepayers and other interested parties will be held on Saturday at 8am at Muizenberg High School in Dover Road.

For more details phone 75 5700 The meeting is being organised by the South Peninsula Municipality.
Claim of racial slur sparks walkout

DIANE CASSERE
CT 28 1992

EIGHT Southern Peninsula councillors walked out of a council meeting yesterday after one of them had been accused of racial incitement.

They were councillors Ms Adeleise Buso, Mr Henne van Wyk, Mr Peter Haelje, Mr Dickie Metre (all ANC), Mr Salamaan Ebrahim and Mr Allan Phillips (both UDM), Mr Phillip Barn (Logica Civic Association) and Mr Dave Sassenman (NP).

The group walked out in support of Ebrahim, who remarked in a debate on an engineering item that the predominantly NP council seemed more interested in diverting resources to affluent areas than to disadvantaged ones.

Ebrahim was asked by NP mayor Mr John "OJ" Jacobs to withdraw his remark, which he refused to do. The ANC then called an ad hoc meeting to listen to the tape of proceedings and reported back to the council that they thought no racial slur had been intended.

"They called on the mayor to review his decision but he refused. We (the group who walked out) then encircled ourselves in solidarity with Ebrahim and said we would return after lunch," said Barn.

"When we returned, we found that the NP councillors had pushed the agenda through and closed the meeting. That means they must have bulldozed through a couple of hundred pages, more than three-quarters of the agenda, in an hour."

The group of dissatisfied councillors said that while no funds had been allocated for the upgrading of disadvantaged areas, council had approved increases of car allowances for themselves to about R9 000 a month.

"Their motivation was that other municipalities received that. What about the lowest paid workers such as street workers? If other municipalities pay them more surely we should be increasing their wages," said Barn.

Ironically, the offending item was brought to the table by Phillips, who walked out in solidarity with his UDM colleague. The item dealt with the paving of Lekkerwater Rd which would ultimately serve both an informal settlement and a more affluent area.

"In areas such as this, development is essential. The road needed to be tarred. However, I think my item was used as a scapegoat and that there was power play involved. The remark (Ebrahim's) was not intended as a racial slur," said Phillips.

"The amount concerned was about R1 million," he said last night.

"I think we really should stop playing political games and get on with the job."

The Southern Peninsula Municipality serves the areas from Simon's Town to Wetton Road, Wynberg and over the mountain chain to Hout Bay.

Mayor Jacobs could not be contacted for comment.
Two-tier metropolitan government called for

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH
METRO EDITOR

WESTERN Cape MEC for Local Government and Gambling, Mr Patrick McKenenzie, has called for a two-tier system of government — not the proposed megacity model.

McKenzie said in a statement that he was concerned because the draft white paper on local government provided for only a single-city metropolitan system, whereas the initial green paper had provided for more than one type of metropolitan government.

His statement followed a meeting of mayors, ex-officio chairpersons and chief executive officers of the seven municipalities in the metro and the Western Cape Local Government Organisation to formulate the province’s position on the proposal.

So the statement McKenzie called for the provincial Affairs and Conventional Development Ministry Mr Mohammed Vally Moosa to ensure provision is made for a two-tier system in the white paper.

Meanwhile, Moosa said in a statement that the white paper had not been finalised and that speculation regarding options was premature.

While there was general consensus that metropolitan government needed to be enabled to play an effective role in co-ordinating metropolitan development and ensuring equity,

the detailed mechanisms for this were still to be finalised. The Western Cape and Kwazulu-Natal have rejected the proposal, but it has the backing of senior figures in the government, including Moosa, Gauteng Premier Mr Matshole Motshokgwa and deputy executive chairperson of the Johannesburg metro, Mr Kenny Hhla.

“This paper acknowledges that the present two-tier system is unworkable and is a move towards sustainable local authorities,” Hhla said on Monday.

The proposed ward committees are intended to counteract the tendency of metropolitan governments to become distant and unresponsive to local needs but would have only advisory powers.

Mayors would head their councils in an executive capacity, presiding over either an executive committee elected by councilors or a “cabinet” chosen by the mayor.

Provincial governments would have to decide on the structural detail of local entities.

The present 60:40 ratio of ward councillors to proportional representatives would be retained.

The number of councillors countrywide would be significantly reduced, as many local authorities had more councillors than was necessary or affordable, the white paper says.

Various approaches have been suggested to revamp administrative systems. These include performance-based contracts for senior staff and revised codes of conduct for public servants, encouraging public-private sector partnerships.

A revamped financial framework is also proposed. The financial base of local authorities is likely to be beefed up by incorporating areas that are untaxed into the property tax net and revamping property rates.

A key decision which needs to be made is whether there should be a uniform national system or whether there should continue to be a local choice in the matter,” the paper says.

It is proposed that a portion of the fuel levy be used to finance road development in local authorities. A land tax is proposed for rural areas. The borrowing powers of local authorities should be extended.

Hhla said a weakness of the paper was that it did not define clearly enough the sources of revenue for local government.

In a press release Ms Nombandla Mfleleko, chairperson of the executive committee, said the City of Cape Town welcomed the proposal in the white paper to open up options for local government in metropolitan areas.

Megacity ‘could usurp the province’

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH

If government plans to turn the entire Cape metropole into a single city go ahead, the vast “megacity” could well usurp the less potent province in a bizarre power shift.

“The population of the present metro area is 70% of the total Western Cape population,” says Democratic Party Cape Town city councillor Ms Belinda Walker.

The megacity, serving three million people, would leave only one million people in rural areas outside its boundaries for the province.

“This raises the question of the relationship between the province and the megacity,” says Walker.

Given that the vast majority of inhabitants live and work in the metro and that it is responsible for the bulk of the province’s economic activity and future economic growth potential, would the current relationship between the spheres of provincial and local government be appropriate?

“There is a real possibility that the role of the province could be usurped by the megacity. If political control of the two is different, the relationship could be extremely strained.”

The megacity proposal in the green paper on local government calls for a single municipality from Strand to Atlantis and down to Cape Point.

This would be cheaper to run and more effective in distributing wealth to poorer areas, say government proponents of the plan. But Walker disagrees. “In reality it is not so simple. First of all, because of the large size there will have to be more layers of management to handle the large staff."

“Obviously we will still need the same number of street sweepers and meter readers to service the area. So the staff component may well increase, in spite of the shedding of some top management posts.”

“Secondly, larger municipalities generally pay higher salaries than their smaller counterparts. Merging large and small municipalities will mean that wages of lower paid staff will be adjusted to match those of their better paid colleagues from other areas.”

Megacity councillors will also be paid more than those in smaller municipalities. To a large extent, this will cancel out the reduction in the number of councillors, says Walker.

“The potential for inefficiency, wastage and even corruption is also far greater in very large organisations, particularly those in the public sector.”
Call for Referendum on Western Cape Megacity
Call for Referendum on Western Cape Megacity
WHITE PAPER ‘UNCONSTITUTIONAL’

Court case threatened in megacity debate

SHOULD the Cape metropole be governed by a single structure, or seven councils? The debate is hotting up, reports Metro Editor CLAUDIA CAVANAGH.

The government could find itself before the Constitutional Court in the growing fray over proposals to impose a single city or megacity on the Cape metropolitan area.

Addressing a highly charged meeting in Muizenberg this weekend, South Peninsula municipality chief executive officer Mr Jan Koekoek said the white paper on local government could be unconstitutional.

It would infringe on the rights of local government if it did not give municipalities at least two options, he said.

The white paper is due to be released some time this month.

Koekoek said once the white paper had been published, the Constitutional Court could be approached.

In terms of the Constitution, the government has given us the power to give input on the matter. Why not make use of this power?”, Local government expert Dr Donald Graythorne said the issue was simple.

The draft white paper gives us no choice. I’m very comfortable with the thought of challenging this on a legal basis in the Constitutional Court.

Although the Cape Metropolitan Council and its six municipalities were formed only seven months ago after a massive restructuring process, critics at central government level say the system has failed to redistribute wealth fairly among citizens and is expensive to run.

But growing opposition to the megacity model, which calls for a single municipality from Strand to Atlantis and down to Cape Point, argues that the system has not even been given a chance to succeed.

A megacity, they say, will simply take local government further away from ratepayers, affect services and lower the morale of 31 000 council employees already suffering from “transition fatigue”.

Rates could soar while property values plummet, say some.

Dr Greg Munro, executive director of community services at the South Peninsula Municipality, says the white paper — the government’s statement of intent and the blueprint for local government — was scrutinised by the cabinet last week.

Although unconfirmed, well-placed sources report that the white paper provides for only one form of local government — the megacity.

It proposes that the 340 councillors currently serving the metropole be reduced to 40.

This would mean one councillor to every 100 000 people as opposed to the current 1 to 10 000 ratio.

“Some councils are not delivering what they should. But why keep changing legislation because of councils who do not deliver at the expense of those that are?”, Munro said.

Saturday’s emotional four-hour meeting threatened to erupt into a verbal and racial brawl when some councillors and residents accused the South Peninsula municipality of delivering a “one-sided and skewed” presentation.

“And this meeting does not represent the whole municipality,” said ANC councillor Mr Peter Gabriel, to peers and boos from the floor.

“Many of my constituents don’t even know where Muizenberg is.”

The last word on the matter has not been spoken here,” agreed Lotus River and Grassy Park Residents’ Association councillor Mr Philip Bam.

“I am dismayed and disgusted at the attitude people here have displayed to those with differing opinions to their own. We must listen to all sides.”

Bam called on the council to arrange similar meetings in disadvantaged areas like Lavender Hill.

Mr Andre Olivier, director of Strategic Support Services, said he’d never ceased to be amazed at the naivety with which the future of local government is being contemplated — even at a national government level.

“We’re talking about big businesses here. The six municipalities and the CMC manage a total budget of R5.9 billion.

“You don’t need to be a rocket scientist to realise that if something goes wrong with that, it will impact significantly on the local economy. It’s in all our interests to make local government work.

“Every citizen relies on our services every day of his or her life. We provide a cradle-to-grave service to our residents who are born in our clinics, travel on our roads, use our electricity and end up in one of our cemeteries.

“If local government doesn’t work, the level of inconvenience for everyone will be severe. It will affect everyone’s quality of life.

“It can’t even be compared to, for instance, the navy shutting down. If local government fails, there’ll be no water in our taps — and that’s another story.”

Meanwhile, attempts would be made to “put our views forward to the powers that be” before the white paper was published, said Koekoek.

If local authorities were to be given a choice in the matter, more time for discussion was needed. If the paper was published without giving municipalities opinions to choose from, “we’ll come back to the community and decide where to go from there”, he said.
Official in land deals probe paid for 16 months at home

KARIN SCHUMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

A GUN-TOTING official of the Western Cape administration has spent the past 16 months at home, drawing a salary of more than R5 500 a month, while allegations have been investigated against him.

Mr Barend Birk, a senior administrative officer in the Department of Public Works, has been investigated by the De Meyer Commission, which is probing alleged irregularities involving state land.

In its report, handed to President Nelson Mandela in September, the commission said it had found that Birk manipulated the sale of R2.4-million worth of state properties in favour of a partner who had later sold them for huge profits.

Because of these deals, pensioners were denied potential housing, a Mowbray Hospital block of flats for staff was sold without the resident or hospital authorities' knowledge and performers at the Nico Malan Theatre were denied safe late-night parking.

At a meeting of the Western Cape standing committee on finance yesterday, it emerged that Birk had been suspended before fraud allegations against him had come to light and because he had been carrying a gun on duty.

"He was originally suspended from duty for threatening actions while in possession of a firearm on administration property," Mr Janne Morkel, director of personnel management in the province, told the Cape Times later.

"After investigation, no disciplinary charges could be justified.

"The suspension was extended on 9 October 1996 for alleged fraudulent actions regarding the sale of immovable state property. Birk's salary, for his position at lower middle management level, was around R69 381 a year.

Although the details of his package may not be made public, Birk has been receiving a monthly salary of about R5 781.75 — excluding perks or benefits — while he has been at home during his suspension.

The administration was studying the De Meyer Commission's report to formulate disciplinary charges, Morkel said.

Western Cape auditor-general Mr Willie Brits gave a summary of the De Meyer report to the standing committee meeting, which was attended by a high-powered provincial administration delegation.

According to the summary, there were four sales of property under the former Cape Provincial Administration that were allegedly irregular.

Birk apparently co-operated with two other people: a director of closed corporations and a Camps Bay lawyer.

Through his involvement with one of the deals under investigation, Birk allegedly received R1,375m although "he did not obtain the necessary permission to engage in or perform remunerative work outside his employment in the public service."

In another deal, a "property that could have yielded R1.2m had been sold to the director of closed corporations, through Birk's involvement, for only R750 000.

The MEC for Public Works, Asset Management and Media, Mr Michael Louis, said his department had noted the De Meyer Commission's report and saw its findings in serious light.

"The matter will be taken to the highest level, " Relevant information on all the investigations would be sent to the law society and the Receiver of Revenue, Louis said.

"May this be an example to the public that any form of fraudulent transactions within public affairs will not be tolerated," he said.

"Public Works will be strategically and managerially consolidated to avert any problem of this kind in the future.

Criminal charges could be brought against Birk if disciplinary action is taken against Birk and he is found guilty, he may be fired.

The Western Cape's director-general, Dr Noel Barnard, undertook to report to the standing committee in two weeks on the status of the province's investigations into the allegations against Birk.
DELYS IN APPROVING the Cape Metropolitan Council’s overdue budget have sent shock waves through the metropole. Metro Editor CLAUDIA CAVANAGH reports.

RATEPAYERS can brace themselves for a 40% rates hike in some municipal areas and a sharp decline in services if the central government does not approve a R209-million subsidy promised to local councils by the Cape Metropolitan Council.

No ratepayer will escape unscathed if the CMC’s budget — already rejected once by the Department of Finance — is not approved in its present form.

The subsidy to the municipalities is being questioned by Finance Minister Mr Trevor Manuel.

Seven months into the financial year, officials and councillors in all six municipalities have been embroiled in talks to find a way out of the problem. The budget will be resubmitted for approval today.

The delay has already pushed municipalities into financial difficulties, and if the full subsidy is not approved and distributed soon, some will be left without funds.

The only legal way we can increase our income by upping our rates will be at the approval of around 30% should the R83m we’re expecting from the CMC not materialise,” said South Peninsula chief executive officer Mr Johan Koekemoer.

In December Manuel refused to approve the CMC’s budget because it was spending too much on bureaucracy and not enough on improving services in poor areas.

The CMC also derives income from business levies, which are supposed to be used for building infrastructure — not subsidising the local authorities’ operational budgets. Only 20% of the levy income — a mere R73m — can be used in this way.

The amounts promised this year, which drew substantially on the CMC’s reserves, would be difficult to sustain, Manuel warned.

Because of the delay, the six local authorities — relying on R209m promised to them by the CMC to balance their books — could not have their budgets approved either.

As a result residents can expect a drop in the services provided by municipalities.

“Until the budget is approved, they cannot go ahead on planned capital works… this will have a negative impact on service delivery,” said a CMC financial expert.

In a hard-hitting presentation to the City of Cape Town’s executive committee this week, Director of Finance Mr Philip van Rynieweld slammed the CMC “for massively expanding its bureaucracy and spending money on new headquarters while the councils suffer major financial stress”.

Exco deputy chairperson Mr Saleem Mowzer agreed. “It is of great concern that the CMC has budgeted only R5m out of a R419m levy income for new capital projects in the six municipalities, yet is spending close on R300m on new headquarters when the future form of local government is still under debate. They’ve also advertised close on 570 new senior management posts,” he said.

“This raises serious questions about how the two-tier system is actually working in the metropole area,” he said.

Ironically, the City of Cape Town will be least affected if the subsidies do not materialise, because the R26m allocated to it was already R12m less than it expected. Since then a string of stringent belt-tightening exercises were conducted within the civic centre.

Without the subsidy, the city would be looking at rates increases of only about 5%. Even then, city manager Mr Andrew Boraine believes the council has enough money “to do the job”.

But, warns Van Rynieweld, the real problem is not next year but the year after. Given the way the CMC is absorbing all the levies, there’ll be even less to go around in the future,” he said.

And although the smaller municipalities are likely to be hardest hit, Blaauwberg’s executive director for finance, Mr George van Schalkwyk, says his residents need not be scared.

“We’ve called for the subsidy to be phased out over a number of years and are confident the Department of Finance will allow us to manage ourselves out of this problem,” he said.

Tygerberg’s CEO, Mr Dave Wilken, refuses to wait for approval before implementing the budget.

“Waiting for more than seven months into the financial year for our budget to be approved is way past the mark of being ridiculous, and we are going full out to provide the level of services we’ve promised our residents,” he said.

“We cannot govern our city under these circumstances — it’s not co-operative governance.”

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**POSSIBLE SCENARIO IF THE CAPE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL’S BUDGET IS NOT APPROVED AS IS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
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<th>Amount CMC may only get (20% of total CMC levy income)</th>
<th>Shortfall</th>
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<td>R9.2m</td>
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*All figures have been rounded off.*
Omar to resign as ANC head

STAFF WRITER

JUSTICE MINISTER Mr Dullah Omar will resign as leader of the African National Congress in the Western Cape at a provincial executive committee meeting this weekend.

Asked whom he expected to replace him as the ANC's Western Cape premier-elect for the 1999 elections, Omar told the Cape Times he would support an "open and democratic process" in the selection of his successor.

Omar — who assumed the leadership in September 1996 — said he had planned a thorough briefing for the provincial executive this weekend, touching on issues such as the state of the ANC in the province, its past record and the organisation's internal democracy.

Omar, who has been praised for his attempts to reform South Africa's justice system, indicated before the ANC's national conference in December that he planned to step down to concentrate on his duties as justice minister.

He said the ANC in the Western Cape needed a leadership that was available "24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week."

The names of possible successors being bandied about include former provincial health and social services MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool, ambassador to the United States Dr Franklin Sonn, Water Affairs Minister Mr Kader Asmal and Mr Tony Yengeni, MP.
The economy of Maine relies heavily on its coastal resources, which are threatened by climate change. However, new technologies and programs are being developed to address these issues. For example, the University of Maine is working on a project to develop seaweed-based biomaterials that could be used in a variety of applications, from medical devices to construction materials. These efforts are part of a broader national trend towards sustainable, regenerative agriculture.

In addition to these scientific advancements, there are also grassroots initiatives underway to promote more sustainable practices. Last year, the town of Cape Elizabeth adopted a zero-waste ordinance, making it the first in the state to do so. This has led to a significant reduction in the amount of waste sent to landfills. Other communities are following suit, with similar programs being rolled out across the state.

While these efforts are promising, there is still much work to be done. Climate change is a complex and multifaceted issue, and it will require a collaborative approach involving scientists, policymakers, and community members alike. By working together, we can develop innovative solutions that will enable us to thrive in an uncertain future.
Court challenges NP to follow act

CHRIS BATeman

COURT papers attempting to force local government MEC Mr Patrick McKenzie to comply with the proportional representation model for rural elections are to be served on his office and all 95 Western Cape municipalities by the end of this week or will be dragged yesterday.

1. The Western Cape is the only province yet to comply with the Local Government Transition Act.

2. The High Court challenge — expected to be heard by June this year — is being mounted by Provincial Affairs and Constitutional ‘Development Minister Mr Mohamed Valli Moosa.

The National Party-led Western Cape has put in place district councils which have equal representation from transitional rural politicians (farmers and farm workers) and transitional local councils (country towns) — a move allegedly favouring the NP in forthcoming elections.

The NP has traditionally had more support in the rural regions, while the African National Congress has secured strong support in the country towns of the Western Cape.

3. The outcome of the court case could prove crucial for the 1999 elections in the rural districts — and if Moosa wins, could sow bureaucratic confusion which could take months to untangle.
Cape gets new departments to boost efficiency

POLITICAL STAFF

Three new provincial government departments are to be created in the Western Cape as part of a sweeping reorganisation of the province's administration.

Provincial Director-General Neil Barnard announced today that a new Department of Labour Affairs and Transformation would be created to give special emphasis to "both the continuous transformation process and labour relations".

A separate Department of Public Works would also be set up to ensure more professional and efficient management of provincial assets. Previously these assets were administered by the Department of Transport and Public Works.

Dr Barnard said that in order to focus on local government functions, the Western Cape would also set up a new Department of Local Government.

The changes, he said, were aimed at enhancing efficiency. But he did not say what the changes would cost, or whether the province would have to employ additional senior officials to run the new departments.

It is also not clear which of the province's executive committee members would have specific responsibility for the new departments.

The changes will come into effect on Monday.
The cost of implementing the Western Cape Constitution was R20 million, Ms Tasneem Essop of the ANC told the provincial legislature yesterday.

It cost R1.4m to draft the constitution, plus R4m a year to provide for the two extra provincial ministers in Premier Hernus Kriel's "bloated" cabinet, Essop said.

She was responding to Kriel's opening address on Monday in which he called the Western Cape a "state". His message, Essop said, was clearly one that he had set the province on a "path of secessionist-led polarization".

The R4m a year included two salaries of R770 000, R388 000 a year for air tickets, telephones and entertainment, R2m for extra ministerial staff and R316 000 to allow staff to travel, phone and entertain.

"This figure does not include R300 000 which has been spent on new carpets and curtains in the offices of the new ministers. Or the R1.6m to relocate the director-general to squeeze in the premier's new cronies," Essop said.

She said Kriel forgot to tell Western Cape taxpayers what the cost was of "creating his little empire here in the Cape" by drafting legislation which would allow him to promote a separate identity for the province.

"Mr Kriel on one hand can afford to surround his colleagues in the trappings of luxury but on the other claims that those same resources can't be used to make a fairer, more equal society in the province," she said.
ANC loses last voice in W Cape government

ANC accused the NP of "contradictory" when it positioned itself in the National Assembly.

"The removal of the last senator on the Freedom Front did not support the ANC's lack of support for the NP in removing the last senator from the National Assembly," ANC spokesperson, the Democratic Party, said yesterday.

The ANC said the motion was carried by 20 votes to 16, with the NP and the DA supporting it. The motion was carried by 20 votes to 16, with the NP and the DA supporting it.
How a fresh scandal claims Koch Nats

Kriel Sacks

JUL 19/18
Kriel loses Olckers, faces no-confidence vote

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape premier Hermus Kriel, having just lost one of his cabinet members because of her alleged relationship with an aide, looks set to face an unprecedented vote of no confidence in the provincial legislature today.

Kriel stands accused by the African National Congress (ANC) of lacking vision and leadership. Kriel had other things on his mind at the weekend after the resignation of Cultural and Environmental Affairs MEC Martha Ockers.

Olckers following claims that she was having an affair with her personal aide, Johann de Wet, 41, is likely to return to the legislature as an ordinary member. Olckers, 56, denied the allegations made by de Wet’s wife Estelle, 42, in a legal suit for R150,000 damages which she instituted against Olckers for having broken up her marriage. In a statement at the weekend, Olckers said that as the only woman in the cabinet she was being victimised by double standards.

Kriel had given Olckers until Saturday morning to sort out her personal affairs or leave his cabinet.

His spokesman, Chris Koole, said yesterday Kriel would be considering a replacement for Olckers this week.

He could either appoint a new minister immediately, or temporarily split the culture and environment affairs portfolios and delegate them to other members of his cabinet.

In a statement, Kriel thanked Olckers for taking the “honourable” way out by resigning to pay full attention to her personal problems.

It was in the interests of the party, he said, that the situation be resolved quickly. Thanking her for her services, he wished her well in her future political career, which apparently meant continuing as a member of the provincial legislature.

Western Cape ANC leader in the provincial legislature, Ebrahim Rasool, will bring a motion of no confidence in Kriel today because of his “lack of statesmanship” and the way he handled issues such as the education crisis.

The ANC said Kriel appeared unable to rise about the petty interests of his party and to get his “white constituency” to embrace social transformation.

Kriel said on Friday, in reply to the debate on his opening speech to the legislature, that he found it strange that after four years as participants in his cabinet, the ANC now found it necessary to bring a vote of no confidence in him.
Caught between two worlds, different identities evolve within the community.
Fury as Neil Barnard fails to heed Parliament's call
Kriel rides punch as ANC no-confidence vote fails

Provincial motion finds no backers

CHÉNE BLIGNAUT
Staff Reporter

Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel’s position is intact after the African National Congress failed in the provincial legislature to get backing for its motion of no confidence.

None of the minority parties supported the motion, which was defeated by 30 votes to 12.

In yesterday’s debate, Ebrahim Rasool, leader of the ANC in the legislature, listed 10 areas in which he said the premier had failed the province.

These included education, crime, failing to incorporate the province in the new South Africa, a lack of leadership and good governance and failing to win the trust of ordinary people.

Mr Rasool also accused the National Party of failing to live up to its own “self-righteous” values and standards, referring to the resignation of Minister for Environmental Affairs and Culture Martha Ockers over allegations of a love affair with her top aide.

The NP rejected the ANC’s motion as a “personal attack” on the premier.

Hennie Bester, Western Cape leader of the Democratic Party, said the ANC’s motion was also a motion of no confidence in him as a member of the cabinet and his party would not support it.

At the same time, the DP would not support a motion of “the fullest confidence” in Mr Kriel.

The African Christian Democratic Party’s Michael Louis and the ANC was “playing dangerous political games” and “playing with the lives of the people of the province” by sending out a message of uncertainty.

Eleanor Lombard of the Freedom Front asked Mr Rasool if he would have moved a motion of no confidence in Mr Kriel had he still been a member of the provincial cabinet.

See page 10
Thousands of jobs at risk — but cash

Cape Spurs Manual

Ay 18/14

Refused

Ad

No Cape Spurs Manual's cash aid

Taal Ron

We are turned away, no Cape Spurs Manual's cash aid.

Ad

No Cape Spurs Manual's cash aid.

Taal Ron
Treatment of Olckers ‘sexist’

By CHEKE BLACKWAT

If former Western Cape Minister of Environment and Cultural Affairs Martha Olckers had been a man, she would still have her job.

This is the verdict of women across the spectrum who have come out in support of the embattled politician.

Mrs Olckers was forced to resign after allegations that she was having an affair with her aide. She has denied the claims and vowed to fight back.

She was told by her National Party boss, Western Cape premier Hernus Kriel, to “sort out” her problems or resign.

“I was very shocked,” said Lynne Brown, African National Congress spokeswoman on gender issues, of the way Mrs Olckers was treated by her own party.

“Men have affairs all the time and they are not viewed in the same serious light,” said Ms Brown, one of two women in the

Women MPs say Olckers saga ‘not fair’

ANC who called Mrs Olckers to sympathise with her. “Infidelity is obviously viewed as a more serious offence than failing to do your job properly,” Ms Brown said.

Eleanor Lombard of the Freedom Front said Mrs Olckers had been a victim of the NP’s “oversensitivity” to sexual scandals after PW de Klerk’s public declaration of his love for another woman.

She said the NP had “overreacted” to unproven allegations and Mrs Olckers had not been given “a fair chance” to tell her side of the story.

“Men often go away on business trips with their secretaries and nobody raises an eyebrow, but society is still not used to seeing a woman in this role,” said Ms Lombard.

Mrs Olckers should have been evaluated on her performance as a minister, not on her private affairs, she said.

“The NP created this dilemma for themselves by using family values as one of the cornerstones of their otherwise empty campaign,” she said.

Nozziwe Madlala-Routledge, head of the ANC women’s caucus in Parliament, said many powerful men had extramarital affairs and were not forced to resign because of them.

“The issue is not whether she had the extramarital affair, as the NP leadership seems to think, but whether there was an abuse of power,” said Ms Madlala-Routledge.

Democratic Party stalwart Helen Suzman said it was “unlikely” a man in Mrs Olckers’s position would have been “harassed into resignation.”

“I feel sorry for Martha,” said NP Member of Parliament and justice spokesman Sheila Camerer.
Parliament accuses Western Cape director

David Greyblo

CAPE TOWN — Parliament’s public service committee decided yesterday to subpoena Western Cape director-general Niel Barnard after he failed to attend a public hearing on provincial audit reports.

Committee members accused Barnard of showing contempt for Parliament by excusing himself at the last minute despite the fact that he was summoned in terms of parliamentary rules last December to appear yesterday.

Barnard sent the committee a fax yesterday which informed chairman Saleh Manie that urgent business had arisen in the past few days which he was duty-bound to deal with and he could therefore not attend the hearing.

He did not specify the nature of the business.

He informed the committee he would be represented by two senior Western Cape officials instead.

However, the portfolio committee, which held public hearings into the provincial audit reports yesterday and on Monday disregarded Barnard’s “late fax”, postponed proceedings and instructed Manie to subpoena Barnard.

Manie, who was speaking afterwards as the chairman of the African National Congress (ANC) public service study group, said that Barnard’s failure to attend appeared to be linked to alleged attempts by the National Party (NP) to turn the Western Cape into “a completely different (political) entity”.

“Does it appear as if the rumour to use the Western Cape as a vultuant is gaining ground,” Manie said. This was of “grave concern” to the ANC.

He said Barnard’s action also appeared to be an act of revenge following an ANC motion of no confidence in the NP under premier Her- nus Kriel in the provincial legislature this week.

Meanwhile, the Northern Province, in its submission yesterday, said fraud and theft were still a major problem in the province, especially in the following areas:

- Government transport fraud such as abuse of car petrol cards, and theft
- Abuse of medical errors and vehicle parts
- A number of officials had been convicted in court, conducted courses in processing suspected fraud and medical errors and vehicle parts
- To counter this the police had set up a special fraud unit to deal with cases
- A number of officials had been prosecuted, convicted and sentenced.

Traffic control. There was fraud in issuing permits and driver’s licence.

Newly appointed Northern Province Premier Mmakakgomo Mokola said the province was also a problem in the province.

He said the province had been hit by the same problems as the rest of the country.

The province had set up a special fraud unit to deal with cases and had prosecuted a number of officials.

He said the province was also a problem in the province.

The province had set up a special fraud unit to deal with cases and had prosecuted a number of officials.

To counter this the police had set up a special fraud unit to deal with cases and had prosecuted a number of officials.
Council delays decision on expelling councillors

Two councillors who contravened the code of conduct may escape expulsion, says Metro Editor Claudia Cavanagh.

Police for a reprieve for two Manenberg councillors facing eviction from the Cape Town City Council for intervening in a council eviction earlier this month led to the matter being postponed for a week.

The debacle began early on February 3 when ANC councillor Mr Mogamat Sampson and National Party member Mr Osborne Adams were asked by community members to help a Manenberg family which was being evicted.

"I explained to Mrs Jacobs (the tenant who had moved in illegally) the duty of the sheriff. She was so hysterical she asked me to phone Mr William Cobett (Cape Town director of housing) and ask him what she should do with her belongings. The situation then became volatile," said Sampson.

"It was almost unclear in terms of Cobett's housing policy which had been adopted by all councillors late last year.

Both phoned Cobett and tried to stop the legal action — in direct contravention of the councillors' code of conduct.

"The councillor (Adams) went further and accused my department of providing preferential treatment to Africans relative to coloureds," said Cobett.

"Councillor Sampson, for his part, appeared to be playing to an audience close to the phone and made absolutely no attempt to listen to my replies."

The councillors' "behaviour, demeanour and language" asserted that the eviction was happening as a result of actions that he (Cobett) had taken personally and not in terms of a policy the council had adopted, said Cobett.

Instead of supporting staff carrying out council policy, they had sided with people who had broken the law.

After investigating the incident, city manager Andrew Boranne had recommended that the council "apply to the High Court for the termination of their membership of this council" — if they didn't first offer to resign.

If councillors are not prepared to be held accountable for the policies and decisions they have helped to determine, and to abide by relevant codes or protocols, there will "inevitably be difficulties in the future", said Boranne.

"Given the enormity of the challenge facing Cape Town generally as regards housing and the particularly volatile situation that will develop unless these are dealt with effectively, I am extremely concerned that officials should not become the focus of community groups' frustration and anger — especially in areas as volatile as Manenberg."

NP leader in the council Mr Clive Justus said that while he was committed to the Code of Conduct, Boranne's stand was perhaps too harsh.

"It's sad that out of concern for their constituent's safety both councillors are to be expelled — particularly since they are involved in an area in poverty and crisis," Justus said.

He reminded the executive council of its responsibility when it visited Manenberg last week.

"One can understand that in the heat of the moment, confronted by unruly elements seeking to discredit the council, one could act out of character. Logic does not always prevail in these situations," said Justus.

NP councillor Mr Howard Park-er said he believed the councillors had acted in good faith.

They came from an area that was "historically disadvantaged" and may not properly understand the code of conduct.

Deputy chairperson of exco, ANC member Mr Saleem Mowzer, then asked for the matter to be postponed for a week.

At his suggestion, the councillors were instantly suspended from their position on the housing committee "until exco has had a chance to study the recommendations" and take a decision on Tuesday next week.

We're often in the line of fire when duty calls

Everyday events can quickly escalate into life and death situations in the war-torn suburb of Manenberg — as Cape Town councillors Mr Mogamat Sampson and Mr Osborne Adams and court sheriff Mr William Kannemeyer discovered this month.

Both councillors faced expulsion from the council after intervening in an eviction of illegal tenants this month.

According to an affidavit presented to the council's executive committee yesterday, the councillors were called out at the last minute to intervene in situations that had gathered in the flat after Kannemeyer arrived to do his duty.

"And then things really became nasty. "While we were busy in the flat, Solly Staggie (younger brother of Hard Livings gang leader Mr Rashied Staggie) and three of his friends came into the flat and started to make racist remarks and threatened to shoot me and my staff," said Kannemeyer.

"Solly Staggie began pushing me around and then kicked me on my leg. I then pushed him out of the flat door and phoned the police for assistance as the street was full of gangsters."

"Nobody can understand what it's like for us," said NP councillor Adams after exco delayed making a decision on his fate until next Tuesday.

"I got woken up and called out to intervene in situations all through the night. The stress and strain are too much."

"We're often threatened by gangs and must really be careful. I worry that my home could be petrol-bombed."

PICTURES: ALAN TAYLOR
AN ASSASSINATION BID was made on a Tygerberg councillor on the eve of a hearing in which she was to give evidence against workers who had allegedly beaten up the mayor. ERIC NTABAZALILA and LINDIZ VAN ZILIA report

TYGERBERG councillor Ms Buyiswa Khalako was shot to stop her from testifying against municipal workers who had assaulted and left former Khayelitsha mayor Mr Vuyani Ngcuka for dead late last year. Ngcuka alleged last night that he was being wheeled into a Groote Schuur operating theatre late yesterday, an angry Ngcuka urged the SA Municipal Workers Union (Samwu) to exercise control over its members.

Samwu general-secretary Mr Roger Ronne told the Cape Times that he was aware of the incident involving Ngcuka and “I know some of our members were arrested.”

He said Kalako’s shooting was “regrettable.”

“If any member of the union is found to have participated in the shooting he or she will be expelled,” Ronne said.

Khalako — wife of former Western Cape MEC for sport and recreation Lerumo — was shot three times outside a friend’s house in Khayelitsha on Monday night.

Last night she was said to be in a “stable condition” after emergency surgery to remove bullets from her liver, stomach and an arm.

Ngcuka told the Cape Times last night that Khalako had been due to testify at a disciplinary hearing of municipal workers — allegedly Samwu members — who had assaulted him in November last year.

He was convinced that the attempted assassination of Khalako was linked to her “key” testimony at the hearing, scheduled for yesterday. The hearing was postponed.

Ngcuka said a group of council workers armed with guns, iron rods and planks had burst into a council meeting at the Lungeluthu Training Centre in Khayelitsha and started “gunning” for him. He had been hospitalised for two days.

The assault apparently had been sparked by negotiations to privatise municipal services in Khayelitsha. Ngcuka said Khalako had tried to intervene in the November 4 attack, but was also assaulted by “aggressive” workers.

Ngcuka said: “I would find it strange if it does not link. During the hearing last month these Samwu members insisted that the case should be postponed and be heard in Khayelitsha. And now, before Buyiswa could testify, they try to kill her.”

“This is a very strange coincidence. It is also a direct intimidation of the councillors, who are being prevented from doing their work,” he said.

Mr Lerumo Kalako said last night he was “puzzled” by the motive for the attack as nothing was taken from the car.

“Though I’m looking at all possibilities, I’m convinced the motive was not hijacking or theft. These people did not even attempt to open the doors of the car.”

He and his wife had gone to visit a friend in Site C, Khayelitsha, when the attack took place.

As he entered the house he heard gunshots and came out running.

“People from inside the house were shouting at me not to go to the car as I might be shot as well, but I wanted to go and save my wife. As I was running towards her I noticed that she had got out of the car and was running towards me, but she stumbled and fell. At this point the men had filed the scene. I picked her up and rushed her to Site B day hospital,” he said.

His wife could utter some words but the pain was unbearable. He said the doctors were worried about the bullet that had entered her liver.

A boy who had seen the two assailants had given the police their description, Khalako said.

No arrests have been made.
Western Cape turns down Manuel’s financial aid offer

Cape Town – Despite the fact that thousands of jobs could be jeopardised, the Western Cape government has refused Finance Minister Trevor Manuel’s offer of financial help, claiming it would give the central Government too much power over its affairs.

“We don’t need the money,” said Armand le Roux, spokesman for Finance MEC Lampie Fick.

Manuel has asked Parliament to allocate R1.5-billion for conditional grants to be made available to provinces which undertake to manage their finances better in future.

Fick said in a speech to the provincial legislature this week the Western Cape would seek other ways of managing its deficit, although he gave no indication of what would be done to save the jobs of teachers and other provincial employees which are under threat because of the tight budget.

The province’s deficit for the current financial year, estimated at R1.65-billion in September, was now estimated at R637-million, Fick said.

Instead of taking up Manuel’s offer, the province would probably apply to the national treasury for an advance on next year’s budget allocation to cover the deficit. This would mean the Western Cape could avoid the judicial management to which it would be exposed under the constitution if the province accepted Manuel’s offer, he said.

Provinces which would like a slice of the R1.5-billion will have to submit a plan to bring spending in line with resources.

Clive Sawyer reports that provincial director-general Niel Barnard has said the restructuring of Western Cape departments will be completed by July 3. This restructuring would include achieving the best use of funds and resources, and avoiding duplication.
Cape constitution triggers race row

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Implemention of the new Western Cape constitution is worsening racial division in the province, warns Minister for Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Valli Moosa. He spoke at the close of a National Assembly debate on an African National Congress motion that slammed political developments.

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CAPE ARGUS, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1998

Constitution race row

From page 1

in the province surrounding the new constitution.

Mr Moosa described as "most outrageous" the creation of a Western Cape Department of Labour Affairs and Transformation, citing the national constitution, which makes labour an exclusively central government matter.

Holding up the front page of yesterday's Cape Argus, which featured the province's rejection of the terms of Finance Minister Trevor Manuel's bail-out package for provinces, Mr Moosa said the Western Cape had rejected as "too strict" finance ministry demands for it to cut down on cellphones and luxury cars.

The debate was closely linked, even in most participants' minds, to the forthcoming electoral battle for the Western Cape.

Randall van den Heever of the ANC said the National Party, in coalition with the Democratic Party and the African Christian Democratic Party, was "reintroducing a volkstaat of white beaskap and divide-and-rule policies in the Western Cape."

According to an ANC costing exercise, the new constitution would cost taxpayers an additional R20-million in its first year of implementation. "Add to this a lavish carpet which the Nats have bought for the members' bar which costs R80 000," said Mr Van den Heever, to cries of "sias" and "shande" from his own benches.

"The white man is still boss in the Western Cape. "White people control the Western Cape government, white people control the public service and white people control the private sector," said Mr Van den Heever. "There was no black provincial cabinet minister."

Zoliswa Kota of the ANC said the absence of women in Herman Kriel's cabinet had created a "cabinet of broederskap and braskap."
Fick defends finance move

Western Cape Finance Minister Lampie Fick has defended his decision not to accept financial help from Finance Minister Trevor Manuel – arguing that to have done so would have placed the province under the “judicial management” of the national government.

And he has refuted suggestions that by turning down the offer of help, the province was putting thousands of jobs at risk.

In a statement, he says that the R1.5-billion offered to cash-strapped provinces by Mr Manuel is not a grant or an addition to their budgets, “but a loan that would have to be paid back”.

“If it will therefore not solve our deficit problem but only assist cash flow management,” he adds, “We do in fact have a cash flow problem but it is manageable and we can and must handle our deficit without accessing the R1.5-billion.”
It wasn’t a snub, says Barnard

Western Cape director-general Niel Barnard says he regrets that his absence from a parliamentary committee hearing was seen as a slight.

The portfolio committee on the public service this week voted to subpoena Dr Barnard after he failed to appear at a scheduled hearing, giving “urgent business” as the reason for his last-minute withdrawal.

In a letter to committee chairperson Saleh Manie, Dr Barnard said “My absence was not intended as a slight and I regret it was perceived as such.”

He cited previous correspondence, and his detailed response to written questions on the state of the provincial government, as evidence of the administration’s commitment to assist the committee to the best of its ability.

“In this spirit I hereby record my willingness to attend the next meeting of the committee,” said Dr Barnard.

Mr Manie said he had no mandate to drop the subpoena unless the committee decided otherwise.
We're not poor enough for aid, says Fick
MUNICIPALITIES, stretched to breaking point by a more than eight-month delay in approval of the Cape Metropolitan Council’s budget, may get a reprieve.

The six local authorities are relying on getting R209 million from the CMC to balance their books.

The shortfalls and allegations that the CMC was spending too much on bureaucracy and not enough on improving conditions in poorer areas had led to questions by Finance Minister Trevor Manuel and the protracted delay.

Yesterday CMC exco chairperson Mr Pierre Uys (NP) introduced a motion to start payments to the local authorities in defiance of the minister.

"We've obtained legal opinion confirming that the Minister of Finance has no right to disapprove or approve our budget. His sole obligation is to monitor that maximum expenditure limits set by him are not exceeded — and this council’s budget does not exceed these.

“A final response from the Minister of Finance has been awaited for more than eight months and the situation has become intolerable.”

Although Uys' recommendation failed to draw enough support, it is likely to be passed by the full NP-dominated council at the end of the month.
Fick under the whip for refusing Manuel’s cash

Western Cape Finance Minister Limpie Fick’s decision to reject the Government’s financial help has had a mixed reception in the provincial parliament.

The African National Congress accused Mr Fick of basing his decision on “political reasons” during the second reading debate on the Adjustments Appropriation Bill on Friday.

But the minority parties strongly supported Mr Fick’s decision.

They warned that by accepting the offer the Western Cape would be handing over control to central government.

ANC finance spokeswoman Tasneem Essop accused the National Party of “lying” to the people of the province about the financial crisis and of “creating panic” over the past few months when “they knew they could have managed their finances differently”.

Daniel Silke of the Democratic Party said the offer was an attempt to reassert control over the provinces.

“The Western Cape is being penalised for being a relatively prosperous province,” he said.

He said the package could not be used to save jobs but was intended to cover debt already incurred by the provinces.

Eleanor Lombard of the Freedom Front said the central government had a “hidden agenda” to take over control of the provinces.

Michael Louw of the African Christian Democratic Party said the province had to have “very good financial control” if it rejected the central government’s offer.
City plans to promote fairness may be shelved

Hard-hitting policies aimed at reversing inequities in the City of Cape Town are in danger of being shelved because of widespread intimidation of council officials charged with implementing them.

The situation is so serious that a top official in charge of a department vital to the functioning of the city, was forced to vacate his office and has armed guards protecting his home after he received death threats.

Another involved in the city's programme to control hawkers has received several death threats and has taken similar measures to protect himself and his family. "It's terrifying, but we have to keep going for the sake of the city," he said.

Central to the widespread problem, said city manager Mr Andrew Boraine, was the failure of politicians (councillors), who approved the policies, to support officials in executing these policies.

Some actually side with unlawful elements against officials simply carrying out duties in terms of the policies.

"Council staff have to implement difficult policies in communities quick to resort to violent confrontation," he said yesterday.

"If council officials and councillors don't work together closely, there is no way policies can be implemented. Not only do councillors undermine council policy by not supporting the officials' action, but they go against it.

"It gets even worse when they identify a particular official as being responsible for the action," said Boraine.

In the process, the lives of officials in the Civic Centre and in the areas involved are put in danger.

"It's crunch time. This is turning into a big issue and we're taking it very seriously," he said.

"If councillors are not prepared to back council officials, I'll have to cancel all credit control measures in the city until such time as they can back us personally," he warned.

Caucuses of all political parties would be tackled over the problem.

The matter reached boiling point this week after the council's executive committee postponed a decision on the expulsion of two Munenberg councillors who breached the code of conduct by interfering in a legal council eviction.

Council officials were "appalled" when the matter was postponed for a week after Tuesday's plea for clemency from other councillors.

Boraine had called for the councillors, NP member Mr Osborne Adams and ANC councillor Mr Mogamat Sampson, to be expelled from the council.

"Staff are really angry. They put their lives on the line executing council policy. How can they take the council seriously if it's not prepared to back its decision with strong action?" said Boraine.

Exco had heard how, during the eviction, both had phoned the head of housing and asked him to stop the process which was being carried out in terms of the council's new housing policy.

The councillors' behaviour and choice of language asserted that the eviction was happening as a result of action the official had taken personally and not in terms of council policy. Aimed at bringing order to council housing, the policy was unanimously accepted by all councillors, including Adams and Sampson, who served on the housing committee at the time.

The eviction drew a large crowd, who allegedly threatened to shoot the sheriff involved.

"The people's respect for governance and those in authority broke down over the past 20 years - quite understandably. While a legitimate government has been restored, we do not have governance. This shows - not only in extreme areas such as Manenberg - but generally, the disrespect for traffic rules," said Boraine.

In Guguletu, a small group complaining about issues of service delivery recently occupied a council building for 10 days as the council negotiated with them, met their demands and finally applied for an eviction order last week.

"The women were evicted and released on bail on condition that they didn't trespass on council property. But they immediately came back with another 30 people and sat in again," said Boraine.

A ward councillor who intervened was taken hostage and freed by a council official who was beaten up by the women.

"Now they're threatening to burn down council houses occupied by other community members if the council evicts them again," said Boraine.

"For 10, 20, 30 years people have been doing what they like. They think they can get away with anything," he said. "For law and order to be restored, people must know that something will happen to them if they break the law. Someone must take a stand."
Councillors await fate

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH

THE FUTURE of two Manenberg councillors, who face expulsion from the city council after intervening in a legal eviction, will hang in the balance for yet another week.

By contacting the council’s head of housing and urging him to stop the evictions, ANC councillor Mr Mogamat Sampson and NP member Mr Osborne Adams directly contravened the councillors’ code of conduct.

After investigating the incident, city manager Mr Andrew Boraine recommended that the council “apply to the High Court for the termination of their membership”.

Should the council agree with Boraine, it is believed the councillors will be the first ever to be expelled.

The pair’s actions highlighted how some councillors — who in the course of their duties approve council policies — fail to support officials in executing the policies.

Some actually side with unlawful elements against officials who are simply carrying out duties in terms of the policy, and even identify particular people in the civic centre as being responsible for the action.

And it’s exactly this type of behaviour that led to a top council official being driven from his office by death threats last week.

Allegations of similar acts of intimidation of officials abound.

But, after hours of meetings by both the ANC and National Party caucuses, no consensus was reached about Adams and Sampson.

Both parties agreed the matter should be postponed for yet another week.

“Because of the serious nature of the item, it’s important to make sure that you bring everyone on board,” said exco chairperson and ANC member Ms Nomandla Mleketo.

“I know it has been discussed twice but many councillors are still grappling with the issues and need time,”

“It’s important that we view this matter in the serious light it deserves. If we don’t involve everyone, we’ll take a decision as a head but the body will go against us.”

DP member Mr Chris Joubert said his party had already studied the matter and “strongly supported the city manager and his officials”.

“Whatever they (the other parties) decide, we will not waver on that,” he told exco.

Acting leader of the DP caucus, Ms Belinda Walker, added: “We believe the director of housing should be given the strongest possible backing by all councillors and officials in his policy to achieve equity in rental housing and we fully endorse the recommendations by the city manager in assisting him to do so.”
Vote-catching temptations will not fulfill hopes.

Coloureds must resist ethno-entrepreneurs.
CMC defies Manuel on spending

JERMINE CRAIG
ASSOC. EDITOR
AR 26/2/98

The Cape Metropolitan Council has defied Finance Minister Trevor Manuel by deciding to go ahead with spending in spite of the minister's refusal to approve the council's budget.

The council has legal opinion that Mr Manuel does not have the right to approve, or reject, the budget in terms of new local government legislation.

The legal advice indicates that Mr Manuel's sole obligation is to monitor that maximum expenditure limits set by him are not exceeded - and the CMC's budget does not do so.

At yesterday's council meeting the motion to ignore Mr Manuel was approved by 20 votes to 2.

In December Mr Manuel said he would not approve the council's R1.8-billion budget because it was spending too much on bureaucracy and not enough on improving conditions in poor areas.

Cape Town's six local councils have warned that they may be forced to increase rates considerably if the central government does not approve a R206-million subsidy promised to local councils by the CMC.

The CMC has been negotiating with the Department of Finance for the past eight months to get the budget approved, but yesterday the council decided to release the funds nevertheless. CMC executive committee chairman Pierre Uys said the council would release the R206-million to local councils on a pro rata basis.
CMC defies Manuel on budget

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH

THE National Party-controlled Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) voted yesterday to ignore Finance Minister Trevor Manuel’s concern that too little was being spent on developing impoverished areas and to implement its budget without his approval.

This means the six cash-strapped municipalities, which rely on R209m million from the CMC to balance their books, can get on with their business, knowing the money will be passed to them, on a date still to be determined.

Some may have been saved from bankruptcy by the move, which was taken on legal advice.

Central to Manuel’s refusal to approve the CMC’s budget last year were questions about the R209m subsidy and claims the council was spending too much on bureaucracy and not enough on improving conditions in poorer areas.

Manuel also said the amount promised to the municipalities this year would be difficult to sustain in future.

But according to senior legal opinion, the minister hasn’t the power to approve or reject the council’s budget. His sole obligation is to ensure the expenditure limits he sets are not exceeded — and the CMC’s budget remains within these limits.

“It’s eight months into the year and we’ve no approved budget,” said the council’s exco chairperson, the National Party’s Mr Pierre Uys, who proposed the move.

“So a month ago we decided to get senior opinion on the matter to speed up the process. Flowing from this came a different angle — we do not need approval from the minister of finance after all.

“The situation is becoming intolerable. The local councils are experiencing severe financial difficulties because of the allocations made to them by the CMC not being paid over," he said.

“Service delivery by the CMC may also be placed in jeopardy.”

Earlier this month, the Cape Times reported that ratepayers in some areas would face rate hikes of 40% and a sharp decline in services if the CMC’s budget was not approved in its present form.

Rounds of nail-biting talks between financial directors from across the metropole and the department of finance ensued — but the budget has failed to get the thumbs up from the minister or his department.

ANC councillor Mr Danie Landangwexted there were “various grey areas” in the legal opinion.

A colleague, Mr Mxuxu Gaba, asked whether the council was dismissing the minister’s concerns as “irrelevant or ill-informed” by transferring the funds to the municipalities.

ANC members voted against the motion, which was carried by 30 votes to 22.

A department of finance spokesperson said intensive discussions had been taking place an an official level to “conclude the matter” and that a decision on the budget was “imminent”.

“The department only received the last batch of information needed to make a final decision, from the CMC at midday (yesterday). We are processing this now,” she said. “But we’ve heard nothing official regarding the CMC’s decision to proceed and can’t respond until we do.”
Poor management cost city R30m — report

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH

POOR management by the old Cape Town city council lost the city and its ratepayers at least R30 million, the auditor-general revealed yesterday.

Presenting a performance audit report on services at selected branches at the Cape Town Municipality to the council yesterday, Mr Louis van Rooyen from the auditor-general's office disclosed:

- A total of 3,535 100m² of surplus land worth R7419 200 could have been sold by the council and developed to the benefit of the community, but wasn't.

In 1987 and again in 1992, offers had been received to develop the old Athlone golf course into an Olympic-sized swimming pool and gymnastics display area, shopping complex, office accommodation, cinema complex, parking area and community hall.

"The offer included a loan of R100m at 12% interest over 10 years to be used specifically for low-cost housing... but the land remained vacant and undeveloped," said Van Rooyen.

- Land worth R1025 980 had been bought for road schemes that were abandoned.
- The impact of non-compliance with the year 2000 on the municipality's computer systems had not been properly investigated.

"Since the housing system, which deals with the billing of tenants, was written in 1972 and is not 2000-compliant, dates referred to on bills would be incorrect," said Van Rooyen.

In addition, if interest were to be charged it might be calculated incorrectly, resulting in lost revenue. Measured against the current level of tenants' arrears of R35m, the annual level of interest in terms of home ownership debt would amount to R4m.

- Additional computer training for employees could have increased the productivity of the 4,300 users within the old city council by 20% a year. The saving, after paying for training, would have been R10,750 a year.
- The Epping Market had not been rented out on non-market days to cover operating costs, which amounted to R17 847 337 for the year ending June 30, 1996, alone.
- Response times at the council’s computer help desk were outside accepted standards and reduced productivity. During November 1996, it took 16 days on average to resolve a hardware problem which should have been resolved within a day.
- Guarantees were not received from tenants prior to occupation of council houses, which increased the likelihood of losses in the case of lessees defaulting. By August 31, 1996, guarantees amounting to R97 340 had been outstanding from tenants for as long as a year and five months.
- Information contained in the property data base was incorrect. By January 1997, the records of 11,000 out of 204,000 properties in the then-city council were incorrect or incomplete, ultimately delaying savings of R1 067 700 a year. In addition, R25 000 had to be paid to the Deeds Office for information about registered erven to correct the records.

After the presentation, exco chairperson and ANC member Ms Nomaiindia Mfekele said "corrective measures were in place".

The DP's Mr Ian Iversen said the report was vitally important "But our reaction to it and how we deal with the problems is even more critical."

Exco member Mr Haneef Tsekeri pointed out that many of the issues raised in the report had already been tackled by the new City of Cape Town.
Cape Town gets top credit rating

THE City of Cape Town has been given the highest credit rating of any municipality in the country. International experts called in to scrutinise its financial affairs surprised the council by awarding the city an exceptionally high credit "quality".

"We knew we'd have to borrow money over the coming months to finance some of our capital development programmes, so we invited an international credit rating agency to do a full assessment of the municipality," said financial director Mr Philip van Rynieweld yesterday.

"There are local authorities that are not regarded as financially sound and cannot borrow money, so we felt the best thing to do was to subject ourselves to this in-depth and thorough procedure."

A spokesman for the company that did the assessment, Fitch IBCA, said Cape Town came up with the "high" credit ratings of A1 for the short-term and A+ over the longer-term. This basically means that anyone who lends Cape Town money is likely to be paid back.

*See Page 7*
Former town clerk still receiving top salary

A YEAR AFTER being axed from his R450 000 a year post, Keith Nicol may still be in line for a R1 million payout. Metro Editor CLAUDIA CAVANAGH reports.

FORMER town clerk of Cape Town Mr Keith Nicol is still at home receiving full council benefits nearly a full year after being axed from his R450 000 a year post.

Although Mr Nicol was told his services were to be terminated shortly after City Manager Mr Andrew Boraine's appointment was announced early last year, a dispute over his settlement was referred to the then-MEC for local government Mr Peter Marais.

In the meantime, Nicol sat in his Constantia home and waited while the council forked out around R37 500 a month.

In October, the Cape Times revealed that Nicol had been at home on a full salary since the beginning of April.

The "very complex" issue was referred to Marais for deliberation by the council's executive committee.

He, in turn, asked Mr Joppe Le Roux, chairperson of the Cape Metropolitan Commission, to investigate and make a recommendation back to him "as quickly as possible."

That was in December. The matter was finally raised again at last week's council meeting where DP councillor Mr Brian Watbyms tabled a series of questions regarding Nicol's bizarre situation. The answers, however, were given on secret Green Paper.

A spokesperson for the new MEC for local government and gambling, Mr Patrick McKenzie, had more to say. "The report was handed to the minister on Friday. He will study it over the weekend and make a decision by about the middle of next week."

When contacted by the Cape Times on Sunday, Nicol said he had been waiting for a long time and was relieved to know that the matter was drawing to a close. He hadn't worked for the whole year. "If I took another job I'd have had to resign from the municipality," he said.

According to council sources, the saga really began a year ago when Nicol's application for the new post of city manager was unsuccessful and he was told that his services would be terminated.

At the time it was reported he was in line for a payout of "well over R1 million" — a figure still bandied about in council corridors.

In early April, he received notification that there "was no longer any work for him and that he'd have to give up his office and secretary".
Two former Western Cape African National Congress ministers have been linked to a private organisation which was paid hundreds of thousands of rands by provincial government departments for research work.

Former health minister Ebrahim Rasool and former transport minister Leonard Ramatliakane are directors of the Foundation for Contemporary Research, a non-government organisation which has undertaken substantial projects for the Western Cape government.

The ministers' involvement in the company came to light after a National Party member of the provincial legislature, Anwar Ismail, gave notice of his intention to ask questions about the company's research.

Today Mr Rasool talked openly to the Cape Argus about his membership of the foundation board, but said he had never tried to influence its "operational decisions".

"The transport report was paid for by USAid, not the provincial government, and was completed before Mr Ramatliakane joined the foundation," he said.

The economic report had been bought from the foundation and not commissioned by the provincial government.

Mr Rasool said he had worked for the foundation for some years. More recently, his role had been as a board member not directly involved in the daily functioning of the organisation.

The foundation, a section 21 company specialising in economic research, is a well known Western Cape NGO which, with several others like it, had been asked to undertake research for the Government.

A shake-up in the provincial cabinet last year meant portfolios previously run by ANC members were given to NP ministers.

The company was commissioned by the Department of Transport, headed by Mr Ramatliakane at the time, and the Department of Economic Affairs, headed by ANC minister Chris Nissen, to do several research projects.

Mr Nissen's department, which was taken over by Henneke Bester of the Democratic Party this year, budgeted to pay the company more than R500 000 for one of several research projects in this financial year.

Mr Bester said he had been "alerted" that "an inordinate amount" of money had been spent on research in his department and had launched an investigation.

The acting managing director of the foundation, Edgar Pieterse, said he would be "surprised" if the former ministers had had any direct influence in the awarding of the research work. They were voluntary directors and not paid by the company.
Bid for special meeting to settle councillors' fate

Two face axe in city eviction row

Lindsay Barnes and Joseph Almas
Cape Town recommends councillors be expelled for violating code
DP minister orders probe into W Cape ‘mismanagement’

Bester says key funds not used

ANDREA WEISS

The department responsible for developing the Western Cape’s economy failed to spend its budget on key projects to boost the region’s economy.

The department, previously called the Department of Economic Affairs and RDP, was until recently controlled by Chris Nissen of the African National Congress, whose membership of the provincial cabinet ended after the power-sharing deal between the ruling National Party and the ANC folded.

Now, the new provincial minister,ennie Bester of the Democratic Party, has ordered a financial audit into the affairs of the department.

He says it has failed to adhere to its budget and has been underspending on key projects.

The department is now known as the Department of Trade, Industry and Tourism.

Mr Bester said he was concerned about the financial management of the department. However, this did not imply that any irregularities had taken place.

Among the issues Mr Bester was concerned about were the fact that internal reports from the province’s own auditing section were never addressed by the former head of the department, Tony Ruters.

Mr Bester said he also took him two weeks to get financial statements and when they arrived they were “cause for concern” because the approved budget had not been adhered to.

He said the financial “mismanagement” had seriously affected the ability of the department to perform its functions.

Among the duties of the department are to administer business regulations, including liquor laws and the Business Act, to promote business, especially small business and industrial development, and to be involved in local economic development and the RDP.

Mr Nissen, who now heads the Government’s Masakhane campaign, aimed at getting people to pay for their services, said he welcomed the special audit by the provincial auditor-general.

He said it was quite normal for new incumbents to review the work done by the previous minister.

Mr Nissen said it was quite likely that money had gone unspent because the department, which he had to set up from scratch, had severe staff shortages.

He said the number of posts had been cut from 17 to 7, and the department had been frustrated because it had struggled to get appointments finalized.

Mr Nissen said Mr Ruters, who is in America, had given him the reassurance that he would do everything to help in the financial review.

He also said that there had been a directive late last year that all spending above R50 000 should be approved by the provincial cabinet.

“I tried very hard to get the money out, but we did not have a full complement of staff,” said Mr Nissen.
Worldwide, people of mixed race want recognition. Coloureds, do need a label.
Crossroads protest sparks Ikapa probe

Women hit out at councillors

Moses Mackay  
Staff Reporter

Western Cape Minister of Local Government, Patrick McKenzie, has ordered an investigation into allegations of nepotism and mismanagement among Ikapa town councillors.

This follows a march by about 3,000 Old Crossroads residents led by Crossroads Women's Power, a multi-party pressure group, to the provincial administration offices in Wale Street.

The marchers handed a memorandum to Mr McKenzie detailing their unhappiness about the absence of development in the area, and calling for the resignations of two Ikapa councillors, Depouth Elese and Melford Gwany, who, the marchers claimed, had not delivered on election promises.

Mr McKenzie said he would pass the memorandum to the Cape Town council with a request for a full report on the serious demands and allegations it contained.

"Councillors should conduct their affairs in an open manner and always be accountable to the people. They should not work in a vacuum," he said.

Mr McKenzie is to meet the women next Tuesday to discuss their demands and grievances.

Crossroads Women's Power includes members of the African National Congress, the Pan African Congress, the United Democratic Movement, the National Party and the Inkatha Freedom Party.

The women accuse councillors of "bullying tactics", of giving jobs to members of their families, and failing to provide night soil services. They claimed councillors had demanded fees from residents occupying unserviced sites.

Simmering discontent in Old Crossroads flared into protest earlier this year, when the women claimed, the council refused to meet them and discuss their demands and grievances.

Complaints included rent increases and that houses being built by the council were too small.

Residents occupied the former Ikapa council offices in January, demanding their grievances be heard. Some were arrested, but released the next day after the charges dropped.

Mr Elese, an ANC councillor, denied there had been mismanagement of funds, as the councillors "don't deal with money".

He said the women complained about the size of houses being built were not even plot holders. Most people had agreed to the building of 381 houses.

The Reconstruction and Development Programme Forum was representative of all organisations, and Crossroads Women's Power was welcome to join them, Mr Elese said.
Western Cape is to get a billion from the central government this year, the first in a series of conditional grants, and the new constitution sets out the relations between national, provincial and local governments. The Budget tabled today in parliament by Finance Minister Trevor Manuel sets aside more than R20 billion for the nine provinces in the 1998/99 financial year.

The budget allocates R79 billion, which will be allocated according to a formula which takes into account education and welfare services, poverty and population size. Each province is also expected to contribute R2.8 billion to the provincial budget, putting together “credible” budgets in line with national standards.

This year, the Government hopes, will be better for provinces, which have been struggling to balance budgets due to falling income and low levels of services. The budget includes R100 million to improve financial management in national and provincial departments.

Other conditional grants to the provinces in the 1998/99 year cover services, including R3 billion for hospitals, more than one million for projects related to reconstruction and development, and R200 million for health services and other conditional grants worth R56 million.

In addition, the provinces will be awarded a conditional grant of R11.2 billion for health services and other conditional grants worth R56 million. This year, the province will be awarded a conditional grant of R23 billion set aside by the state for improvement in services for civil servants.

The allocations take into account new figures in the 1998 census, which found that the Western Cape and Gauteng had a bigger share of the total population than was previously thought.

Finance Minister Trevor Manuel said each province had determined its own priorities and had drawn up a budget in accordance with the resources available. “With these powers come responsibility and accountability,” he said.

“Each province must make sure that it budgets adequately for each of the services it provides.”

The Department of State Expenditure had set aside R100 million to improve financial management in national and provincial departments.

In addition, R200 million had been allocated in the Education Department’s budget and R100 million in the Welfare budget to train people and to improve information systems in the provinces.

The Government is also considering reviewing legislation which controls the borrowing powers of provincial governments in order to stop provinces using bank overdrafts unwisely.

“Sound financial management in the provinces has become a top priority,” says the Budget Review tabled in Parliament today.

By the year 2002/2003, the Western Cape’s share of national revenue is due to drop from 9.5% to 9.6%, according to projections tabled in the Budget Review. Provisional projections are that at the same time, Gauteng, KwaZulu Natal and Mpumalanga will stand to gain in relative terms with Mpumalanga in line to take almost 20% of money allocated to the provinces.

This is nearly 20% more than its current share. All but 5% of provincial spending is sourced from the national Budget. A total of R1 billion is set aside today’s Budget for the municipalities.
1998 BUDGET
Division of Provincial Affairs
Western Cape

Less is more for W Cape

1998 BUDGET
SOUND DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

1998

Treasurary, March, 1999

* TIMES

CAPE
The women’s group claimed they were met with hostility when they tried to discuss their grievances with the minister. The group said they were not consulted or informed about the proposed changes.

The minister is expected to meet with the group this week to discuss their concerns.
Cape budget dilemma for Minister Fick

(263) 444 1749/48

Prime Minister, Cape
Province looks to Nico and Valkenberg for cash

State assets like the Nico Malan Theatre complex and the Valkenberg estate could be leased to the private sector to boost Western Cape provincial income.

Provincial Minister of Public Works and Asset Management Michael Louis has proposed offering leases of up to 30 years on state-owned land to private companies, which would be expected to provide infrastructure and meet the costs of maintaining existing structures.

The lease proposals, part of a plan to relieve the province’s acute budget problems, are likely to emerge later this year after the necessary legislative framework has been established.

State assets like the Nico Malan complex are seen as likely targets for privatisation in the form of lease agreements because of the enormous costs of maintaining them. And many other assets, like the Valkenberg estate, are seen as having a high potential for generating revenue, but in present circumstances are largely a drain on state resources.
Western Cape to cut 10 000 more public servants

David Grewbe

CAPE TOWN — The Western Cape envisaged cutting its workforce by a further 10 000 by the year-end so it would be left with 70 000 public servants, provincial director-general Neil Barnard told Parliament yesterday.

This meant the provincial government would have slashed its workforce by about 27% — 30 000 — since the 1994 election, Barnard told the public service committee. The almost 20% already cut "has not been equalled elsewhere" in the public service.

His appearance followed a decision to subpoena him after he failed to attend a public hearing on the provincial audit report. He apologised yesterday.

The Western Cape received a reasonably clean bill of health in the audit report. The only major critique was that its management style was seen as too centralised.

Barnard disagreed. The province had adopted the most efficient model under the circumstances — a mix of centralisation and decentralisation. "It is accepted that a decentralised model best suits service delivery but it is also true that a decentralised model more often than not is more expensive."

More progress could have been made but for a decreasing budget allocation. The administration wanted to ensure competent staff were available before devolving more functions.

He said the province was "not completely satisfied" with its progress on affirmative action. However, downsizing restricted opportunities and 65% of approved voluntary severance packages went to black workers. The province was confident the new labour relations and transformation unit would hasten affirmative action.

The unit's head, Malvyn Joshua, called for a more focused retrenchment tool "whereby the employer can take the initiative, close a function and lay off workers". The voluntary severance package had not resulted in a smaller public service. "There is no well-developed action plan."

A payments audit had shown that there were no ghost workers.
W Cape's budget aims at new growth drive

The Western Cape's proposed budget for the coming year is focused on education, in line with the province's commitment to improving educational outcomes. The budget allocates funds to support schools, teacher training, and the development of educational infrastructure. This investment is seen as crucial for enhancing the quality of education and preparing students for the future.

However, the budget also includes measures to promote economic growth and job creation. The government aims to attract investment and support entrepreneurship, recognizing the importance of a strong economy in driving social development.

In addition, the budget allocates resources to improve health services, with a particular focus on universal health care. This commitment is aimed at ensuring that all citizens have access to high-quality health care, regardless of their ability to pay.

Overall, the budget strategy is designed to balance the need for education with the goal of economic development, recognizing the interdependence of these sectors in achieving sustainable growth and improved living standards for all.

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[Source: Western Cape Provincial Government]

West Cape budget growth

Co-operative for the 19%
Education cut, but funding welcomed

ANDREA BOTHA
Staff Reporter

The provincial Education Department has welcomed its new budget of R3,3-billion, although it is less than the cash-strapped department spent last year.

Education chief Brian O'Connell said, "It is almost R400-million better than I thought it would be a few weeks ago and, while it is less than was spent last year, this is only to be expected."

As the budget was not as small as initially feared, he foresaw greater stability for education.

The good news was that there would be R16-million more for textbooks and R4-million more for school equipment than last year.

The bad news was that there was R200-million less for teacher salaries. This meant there was no money to pay about 2,000 teachers.

It was hoped these would take the voluntary severance packages.

Department administration would undergo some serious cuts to make it more streamlined and efficient. Staff expenditure had been cut by R17-million and it was hoped administration personnel would take severance packages.

The second largest budget allocation would go to schools for pupils with special educational needs.
Bill allows province to broker land deals

The Western Cape government will be able to sell provincial land with the passing of the Western Cape Land Administration Bill.

The bill was approved unanimously in the provincial legislature yesterday.

It was debated on budget day, indication of the urgency with which the measure was viewed by the provincial cabinet.

It is the first bill to emanate from the new portfolio of asset management, which falls under African Christian Democratic Party minister Michael Louis.

"This bill for the first time gives us the real rights to be accountable and responsible for our assets," said Mr Louis.

But he emphasised it was not the intention of his department to "sell the family silver".

The bill spells out criteria for the disposal and acquisition of state land.

It contains a clause referring to "co-operative government" with a view to co-ordinating the provincial e-government with the national e-govt of land reform.
Rivals welcome Fick's 'no-choice' budget

'Devil could be in the detail'

Most Western Cape politicians feel Finance Minister Lampie Fick did a reasonable job balancing his budget – faced as he was by tight constraints.

These include a R627-million deficit for 1997/98, which has to be repaid over the next few years, and the fact that he can no longer budget for a deficit.

About 80% of the province's funds have to be spent on nationally-determined salaries and welfare grants.

ANC finance spokeswoman Tasneem Essop welcomed the increased budget and the fact that the National Party had not repeated its "constant complaint" of being "punished" by the Government.

"On the face of it, the budget accepts the national financial framework. The devil could yet be in the detail," she said. Although the party welcomed increased spending on health and education, it wanted to see what would be spent on the poor.

"Will the additional R200-million for education be used to address the backlogs in schools in disadvantaged areas such as Bonteheuwel, Mitchell's Plain, Khayelitsha and Guguletu," asked Ms Essop.

The ANC believed the increased education allocation of R3.5-billion was still too little to ensure the "orderly transformation" of education.

Democratic Party spokesman Daniel Silke said the 1997/98 budget had been a "no-choice" budget.

"We have to live within our budget or pay the price later," he said.

The DP believed the budget was "severely hampered" by the fact that 94% of its income came from the Government in the form of a R9.5-billion grant, while only 6% was raised from the province's own sources.

This meant the province had only R59-million more to spend in this financial year. Mr Silke said the province began the year on a negative note because of the large deficit of R627-million, which he blamed on "bad management" in the departments of education and health last year.

This, combined with the shrinking grant from the Government to achieve equity among provinces, left Mr Fick with little room to manoeuvre.

The main challenges facing the province within these constraints were management, innovations and strict reprioritisation.

Shortcomings identified by the DP included not providing for an improved management information system, and not boosting the financial management capacity of key departments.

Michael Louw, African Christian Democratic Party Minister of Public Works and Asset Management, congratulated Mr Fick on a balanced budget, but said he would have liked to have seen more funding for the upkeep of buildings and infrastructure.
Privatising Western Cape
Province
Opposition to proposed Cape development bill mounts

Linda Eger

CAPE TOWN — Opposition to the draft Western Cape Planning and Development Bill mounted yesterday with political parties, trade unions and ratepayers’ associations condemning the wide and arbitrary powers granted to the MEC.

The African National Congress (ANC) warned that the draft bill would perpetuate the disorderly development in the province which was “seriously threatening the environmental soundness and scenic beauty” of popular Western Cape spots.

The national land affairs department, Cape Town city council, SA Communist Party and Congress of SA Trade Unions have also expressed reservations about the bill, particularly the power given to the MEC to throw out democratically adopted plans.

The proposed legislation — which has been circulated for comment and is due to be the subject of public hearings — would be the provincial alternative to the national Development Facilitation Act. However, it would differ from the act in key respects: it made no provision for local authorities to formulate development goals and no provision for a tribunal to hear appeals.

The act was created to speed up development projects and address the inequities in land ownership, occupation and development inherited from the past. It required local authorities to formulate integrated local development plans as a framework for their land-use decisions and lay down general principles for the development of land throughout the country.

However, the draft provincial bill would give the MEC of planning the “unfettered discretion” to override local authority decisions even when these involved widespread consultation and public participation. It would also be able to exclude developments from the ambit of the bill.

“If it is enacted the Western Cape Planning and Development Bill will be a serious infringement on the rights of local government authorities in the Western Cape to draw up and promote development in their areas,” ANC provincial spokesman on development and planning, Garth Strachan, said.

He said the ANC thought the draft bill was unconstitutional, lacking in its provisions for environmental protection and running counter to the principles of co-operative governance, transparency and accountability.

Strachan said the draft bill gave “substantial status” to old apartheid structure and guide plans, according them the same status as democratically formulated, local authority plans.

He believed the bill was designed to protect and entrench vested interests and inhibit the transformation of apartheid land-use structures.
Municipalities revolt over planning bill

Nat councils take on province

JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

All seven of Cape Town’s local authorities have told the Western Cape government its draft Planning and Development Bill is fundamentally flawed and should be withdrawn.

The move is politically significant because several of the councils are controlled by the National Party, which also dominates the Western Cape government.

Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom has also expressed concern, telling Western Cape Planning Minister Kobus Niering that the bill will fail to reverse the apartheid-based planning legislation on the regional statute books.

These responses were made yesterday to the province’s standing committee on constitutional affairs, local government, housing and planning.

The Cape Metropolitan Council and the municipalities of Cape Town, South Peninsula, Blaauwberg, Tygerberg, Helderberg and Oostenberg were opposed to the “wholesale subordination” of virtually all key municipal planning matters to the provincial parliament.

“In view of the intractable, fundamental problems which beset the bill, the best course would be for the provincial minister to withdraw the bill,” they said.

Mr Hanekom said the bill:

- Failed to lead the Western Cape into a new planning era “that will effectively undo the grim legacy of apartheid planning”.
- Concentrated excessive executive powers in the hands of a political figure (the provincial planning minister).
- Failed to recognise the important new role of local government in planning and development.
- Was largely an interim measure which would not take the Western Cape closer to “a new and transformed planning system”.

ARG 25/3/98
NP accused of reneging on education accord

Linda Ensor
CAPE TOWN — The National Party (NP) in the Western Cape has been accused of reneging on an agreement with the African National Congress (ANC) to allocate R200m of the Western Cape budget to education. The savings would come from several departments. The agreements were reached during a meeting of the standing committee on finance on Wednesday but yesterday morning the NP members of the committee were hauled before the NP caucus and told to retract them, ANC finance spokesman Tianem Eemp said. The executive arm of the provincial government had made a mockery of the oversight role of the committee by reducing it to a mere rubber-stamp of the executive, she said during a debate on the budget in the legislature. Eemp said the ANC believed that education, which required R3,9bn to maintain instead of the R3,6bn it was allocated, should be treated as a priority in the budget. The higher sum would have obviated the need for retrenchments, stabilised education and facilitated the achievement of equity, she said. Accompanying the Clintons from Tuyuhasu to Parliament, Mandela was joined by his companion Graca Machel. Two SA officers led the group, which was followed by a US Marine Corps officer in dress uniform. Clinton spent more than an hour in the parliament complex before his speech. After chatting to Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi on his way out of the chamber, he greeted ANC National Assembly and SA Communist Party leader Blade Nzemane, raising a cheer from many MPs. In Speaker Frans Ginwala’s office he met the parliamentary leaders of the ANC (Max Sisulu), the Freedom Front (Constand Viljoen), the Democratic Party (Tony Leon), and the National Party (Marthinus van Schalkwyk), and the IFP’s Joe Mathebula.

Hanekom objects to bill

Linda Ensor
CAPE TOWN — Agriculture and Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom has objected to the Western Cape Planning and Development Bill, which will govern development in the province, on the grounds that it concentrates "excessive executive power" in the hands of the MEC and did not make sufficient provision for public involvement. In a letter to newly appointed planning and administration MEC Kobus Meiring, Hanekom expressed regret that the Western Cape had decided not to follow other provinces in implementing the Development Facilitation Act, designed to overcome the "grim legacy" of apartheid. He said the bill as proposed—which has met with wide opposition from various organs of civil society as well as the National Party controlled Cape metropolitan council—failed to recognise the important new role of local government in planning and development. It failed to provide for integrated development and "effectively preserves the very different, and unequal, land use management and zoning systems applicable in apartheid's different race zones". He said he was concerned that the Western Cape was still, in 1998, subject to pre-1994 planning legislation which in many ways formed the basis for the bill. Johnnic

Continued from Page 1

Another issue being debated is Johnnic’s portfolio investments in SAB and Premier. Some other institutional investors in the group believe a Johnnic-Nail merger would be feasible only if both stakes were unbundled out of Johnnic, leaving a more focused group. This will be one of the issues addressed by Johnnic’s board subcommittees. Johnnic’s joint control with Liberty Life of SAB and Premier may be seen as giving it little or no influence over their strategic direction or management, but the preponderance of the SAB stake’s value compared to the other assets in the Johnnic portfolio leaves the Johnnic share price highly geared to SAB’s stockmarket performance. Johnnic has a market capitalisation of R9,6bn, of which R6,6bn can be attributed to its stake in SAB. It is unclear at this stage what Nail’s view on SAB and Premier would be should the merger go through. Nail MD and executive deputy chairman Dikgang Monseke said yesterday he could not comment as the companies were trading under customary notices. Nail executives were canvassing some of Nail and Johnnic’s institutional shareholders this week as part of protracted and thorough discussions on the proposed merger.

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz

WHAT I THINK I’LL DO TODAY IS TAKE SOME MONEY OUT OF COLLEGE TRUST FUND AND GO BUY A DOG YOU DON’T HAVE A COLLEGE TRUST FUND? PLEASE PAY THE GRAPE JELLY WE’RE ALL OUT OF GRAPE JELLY, DON’T A RE WASTE THE GRAPE JELLY!”
Angry debate on councillors' fate

CLAUDIA CAVANAUGH
METRO EDITOR

CONFUSION and disorder reigned in the Cape Town council chambers yesterday, where it was finally decided that two councillors who allegedly broke the code of conduct by intervening in a council eviction in Manenberg, must go.

After an angry debate — in which City Manager Mr Andrew Boraine was accused of being prejudiced and the entire National Party caucus walked out — the ANC and Democratic Party carried the contentious vote.

The case, involving ANC councillor Mr Mogamat Sampson and NP member Mr Osborne Adams, led to head of housing Mr Billy Cobett being threatened by gangsters. In February, Cobett took his family to England. He has since returned on his own.

According to Boraine, the councillors contravened the code of conduct by contacting Cobett and urging him to stay the eviction — carried out in terms of a policy endorsed by all councillors. He recommended that the council "apply to the High Court for the termination of the councillors' membership" — and it is this that was agreed to yesterday.

But NP member Mr Leon Markovitz warned the council that it would emerge from the court case, which could ensue, with a

IN THE COLD: ANC councillor Mogamat Sampson

"bloody nose" and that he would personally contribute towards both councillors' legal fees.

"What Adams and Sampson were doing that day was simply representing their people. They were just trying to delay the matter..."

Markovitz said Boraine was precluded. "He's a friend, too close to Cobett to judge the situation fairly. What about the threats made to the councillors who live among the gangsters? I don't know where Cobett lives — but I think not in Manenberg."

NP councillor the Rev William Bantom interjected throughout the debate and at one stage shouted: "Julle gaan pak kry! (You're going to get a hiding)"

Those in favour of expelling the pair "don't have to survive the Cape Flats every day, come from leafy Rondebosch, Camps Bay, Bishopscourt and Bantry Bay and can go to bed without a care in the world", Bantom said.

"We're being asked to hang brothers who live in areas where their lives are threatened on a daily basis. But when Mr Cobett gets one threatening telephone call, he's given a guard at his house and a two-to-three week holiday in England."

During the evction, Mr Sollie Staggie, younger brother of Hard Livings gang leader Mr Rashied Staggie, arrived at the house and police were called.

"I would also have picked up the phone and called Cobett if my life was on the line," said Bantom.

To boot from the NP, ANC councillor Ms Daphne King said the code of conduct was also there to protect councillors from gangster elements. "We need to send a clear message to our citizens that we are serious about governing our city. To our law-abiding citizens we must say that we will take control. And I'm talking from experience... ANC councillors do not come from Bantry Bay. We know what it's like to be manhandled by gangsters," King said.

Chairperson of exco Mr Nomandla Mphoko said the time for "illegitimate governance" was over. "What we see today is the result of years of turning a blind eye to what's been going on... to crime and gross mismanagement."

"We're talking about millions of people who don't have a roof over their heads. When we ignore the rules of conduct we are saying that these people must stay like this... We have rules and a responsibility to govern. We have a responsibility to show communities that we will change their situation, but we will also follow the rules of council."

Deputy chairperson Mr Saleem Mowzer said councillors should lead by example. "If we break rules and regulations, how can we expect our people to obey them?"

"The DP fully supported the housing policy, said Mr Ian Ivensen. "If we're not strong-willed, we'll lose the battle for housing."

"Cobett has made it clear to us that we have virtually lost control of our housing stock. Without our support the policy will fall apart."

The ANC in the Western Cape has accused the NP of "cowardice" for leaving the chamber before voting. "We all have a duty to do everything to build up morality in our society. The NP have shown that they are not prepared to act against their own," it said.

But NP leader Mr Clive Justus said his party did not believe the councillors had contravened the code and had left the chamber because debate had been stilled.
Angry debate on councillors’ fate

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New hope raised on megacity

JERMAINE CRAIG
City Reporter

There seems to be a glimmer of hope for Cape municipalities opposed to the megacity concept, but there are doubts that meetings to discuss the white paper on local government now are useful.

The Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development, Valli Moosa, recently released the white paper with two options, both providing for a megacity but giving municipalities a say in the type of local government to be instituted.

However, most opponents of the megacity concept say Mr Moosa's proposals are only minor variations on a theme of strongly centralised metropolitan government (megacities) which would mean an end to the system of local councils operating since 1995.

Mr Moosa has appointed consultants to conduct further research with interested parties, mainly the councils, before the white paper becomes law.

Mr Moosa's chief consultant, Michael Sutcliffe, met representatives of the Cape's local councils yesterday to outline his brief.

Many of those at the meeting felt that enough consultation had taken place before the release of the white paper and questioned the need for further input.

However, there also seemed to be slight optimism that Mr Moosa could somehow open the door for further options in the Cape.

The executive committee chairman of the Blauwberg municipality, George Mellet, questioned the need for further research, but hoped that through it Mr Moosa would look at other alternatives to the megacity concept.

The Cape Metropolitan Council's executive committee chairman, Pierre Uys, said he had discussed the issue with Mr Moosa recently.

The minister had told him it would be "stupid" to put just one proposal forward.

Mr Moosa said that if local councils could justify the need for other proposals, they would be examined.
Ambassador to US may be candidate for premier as leadership face hot up

Cape ANC looks to Franklin Sonn
NP leadership battle in the

Kriel set to quit
ANC hails new beginning

ANDRE KOOPMAN
PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

THE ANC Western Cape, accused of being one of the most fractious and divided regions, emerged united and re-energised after its Kuils River conference at the weekend under its new leader, Mr Ebrahim Rasool.

This was the opinion of many of the 479 voting delegates canvassed and was emphasised by outgoing chairperson Justice Munster Dullah Omar, who said in his farewell address that the Western Cape had become "united" in its conference and was ready to tackle the National Party in the next elections.

Rasool echoed these sentiments in his keynote address, saying the "conference has been a turning point for our party. This weekend the ANC in the Western Cape came of age."

He said the ANC had been disorganised and morale had been low after the defeat in provincial elections but it had now "rediscovered the unity that made the UDF a major force in the destruction of apartheid in the 1980s."

The sentiments of the two leaders were reflected in the election results for the top five positions on the provincial executive committee (PEC).

The leadership battle predicted by some political analysts did not materialise, and Rasool was elected unanimously and unopposed after former leader Mr Chris Nissen and Mr Tony Yengem said they were not available.

Ambassador to the US Dr Franklin Sonn, who was also present as a new leader, earlier on that he would not stand. Most of the PEC members were elected by a two-thirds majority or more.

They are: deputy chairperson Ms Nomandla Mfeketo, provincial secretary Mr Mcebisi Skwatsha and vice secretary Mr Manus Fransman. Ms Rhoda Joemat was elected unopposed as treasurer, the position formerly held by Rasool.

The toughest battle fought for the position of secretary, which is a key organisng position on the PEC.

The incumbent, Mr James Ngcuka, who has been criticised for poor management style was soundly trounced by Skwatsha, former president of the ANC Youth League and former political education officer for the ANC in the Western Cape.

The character of the top five positions and the rest of the PEC is seen as a triumph for broad, participatory democracy as opposed to the more centrist kind of democracy practised by the ANC in exile. This was also

Position of Africanists rejected

quite significantly reflected at the ANC national conference at Makkenge in December.

The Africanists groupings led by Ngcuka were also soundly trounced, and township branches significantly rejected an Africanist position overwhelmingly, according to leading ANC members. Nevertheless, minor strains in the ANC are fairly well represented on the PEC, according to political analysts.

At the weekend conference, the ANC faced the colour/African divide head on, stating in a key resolution that there was a need for colour/African solidarity.

In an attempt to embrace non-racialism, the conference stated in a resolution that the needs of the poor should be addressed.

This was an attempt to dispel the "myth that African/coloured unity was impossible because these communities had different experiences under apartheid", said Western Cape ANC publicity chief Mr Cameron Dugmore.

The level of unity achieved at the conference is seen as a function of a strategy document drawn up by a committee chaired by Rasool and widely canvassed among branches four months before the elections.

In the past, the ANC discussed strategy and tactics at the conference. The political strategy document which called for, among other things, more communication within the ANC was adopted as a resolution.

Key resolutions focused on non-racialism, the need to increase health care and objecting to the closing of major hospitals such as Somerset, the crime problem, addressing the needs of women in the Western Cape and improving care for the poor.

A resolution called for the need to transform rugby and to involve communities in this process.

Another resolution about Mr Robert McBride, deposed in Mozambique on suspicion of gun-running, stated that "Attempts by reactionary elements within the state machinery to label Robert McBride a gun-runner has no basis and the ANC acknowledges McBride as a disciplined member of the ANC who has sacrificed greatly and whose integrity is not in dispute."

Rasool said the conference had been characterised by a "spirit of renewal, optimism and a determination to take the battle to the NP."
Chasing of guard for poll battle

Khalil future in balance as ANC elects new leader

Mail & Guardian

06 July 98

NEWS

4
Little grief in politics over Kriel’s passing

CLIVE SAVUYER
Political Correspondent

Western Cape political leaders today described Premier Hermus Kriel’s resignation as a leap from a sinking ship.

Hennie Bester, leader of the Democratic Party and MEC for trade, industry and tourism, said the National Party was not as secure as it might seem.

Mr Kriel’s departure yesterday marked the passing of the last of the NP old guard. Now the party faced an unenviable choice between the amiable but unproven Gerald Morkel and the energetic but often off-target Peter Marais.

Mr Bester said the agreement by which the DP was in government in the Western Cape would not allow the new premier to change the portfolio held by the DP. The party had entered the cabinet to ensure good governance and intended staying on until next year’s election.

Eleanor Lombard, leader of the Freedom Front in the province, said Mr Kriel’s departure had been prompted by his disillusionment with the political situation in the Western Cape.

Over the years, Mr Kriel had demonstrated his political acumen, and had done so once again in his decision to disembark from a sinking ship.

It was clear from his speech yesterday that the lack of powers for provinces made it impossible to run the Western Cape effectively, she said.

Ebrahim Rasool, leader of the ANC in the Western Cape, said it did not matter who the NP elected as its new leader on Thursday.

“Thursday will see simply more of the same because, although the face may change, the NP will continue to implement its same old discriminatory policies.”

The ANC believed that the NP in the Western Cape remained firmly in the hands of those committed to preserve white privilege.

“The search for a coloured leader is a poor compensation for the fact that the coloured and the African community have not benefited from four years of NP rule.

“No NP leader can save the sinking ship,” said Mr Rasool.

African Christian Democratic Party leader and Pravatisation and Public Works MEC Michael Louw said Mr Kriel had been an outstanding and uncompromising leader and his party was indebted to him for including an ACDP representative in his cabinet.

Contenders: Peter Marais and Gerald Morkel
A world view collapsed as last
White ruler in Africa bows out

(69) 1/4/1868

FRANK DEVAUX

Cape in the West

The profound economic changes caused by the introduction of the railroad and the expansion of the railway network

Within the context of the European powers in the

2. The Railway Extension

The railway extension was the result of the combination of economic interest and political will. The expansion of the railway network in Africa was motivated by economic factors such as the need to transport goods and raw materials, but it also served political purposes. The railway extension was seen as a means to strengthen control over the territories, to facilitate the administration, and to promote economic development.

3. The Impact of the Railway Extension

The railway extension had a significant impact on the economy and society of the African countries. It facilitated the transportation of goods and raw materials, which led to an increase in trade and economic growth. However, it also contributed to the expansion of the European powers in Africa and the exploitation of African resources.

4. Conclusion

The railway extension was a significant event in the history of Africa. It had a profound impact on the economy and society of the African countries, and it contributed to the expansion of the European powers in the continent. Despite the negative consequences, the railway extension paved the way for modernization and development in Africa.

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Why old guard, King quit politics"
For the position of module leader to the position of regional leader, the module leader should be dynamically promoted from within the module leader's team. This promotion will be mandatory to the Western Cape for a person who has been a module leader for at least five years. The module leader will be responsible for overseeing the operation of the module leader's team and ensuring that the module leader's team is effectively managed and that the module leader's team's objectives are achieved. The module leader will also be responsible for developing and implementing strategies to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the module leader's team.
Local govt plan 'only a mirage of democracy'
Two lead field in premiership race

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

If ever there was a race in which punters were hesitant to bet their money it is that for the premiership of the Western Cape.

Will it be the gentlemanly Mr Gerald Morkel or the political pugilist Mr Peter Marais?

For several years there has been talk that when Mr Hernus Kriel stepped down as leader of the National Party in the Western Cape he would be followed by a black leader and that it would be Morkel or Marais. Both are members of the provincial cabinet and hold senior positions in the party.

Kriel announced his resignation from politics on Monday. Voting for the next leader takes place tomorrow evening, but the debate is as murky as it was two years ago when the speculation started.

The NP's head council meets at 7pm tomorrow when its members will vote for those candidates that make themselves available. Both Marais and Morkel have indicated their interest in the position.

There are differers aplenty in the all-consuming leadership debate and it seems a combination of Morkel and Marais' personalities would probably make the best leader of the NP in the province that is seen as the party's home base.

Besides Morkel and Marais, the other pretenders to the crown are provincial Education minister Mr Nick Koornhof and local Government minister Mr Patrick McKenize.

There is, however, a technicality that would have to be overcome for either to be considered. They are not members of the provincial legislature and therefore cannot become premier.

Both were co-opted from the central Parliament to serve on Kriel's cabinet, in line with the new provincial constitution.

This leadership race — unlike the ANC's recent provincial leadership contest in which Mr Ebrahim Rasool was clearly the front-runner and was elected unopposed — is a tight one.

Even the most fanatical gamblers seem to be hedging their bets this time.

Marais is the man, if NP want power

Marais is a jolly old soul and his raucous laughter, propensity to break into song and showbiz manner goes down very well with many, but if he does become the next leader of the NP in the province, he will certainly be thrusting the mould.

The words most often used to describe Marais are "firebrand", "loose cannon" and "unguided missile". Marais is seen by many as the man who can clinch the oft-debated "coloured vote", but what happens after next year's election? Will his unrestrained style serve him, or will it blow up in his face?

Marais is a worker and a fighter. Not content to be dictated to by the central government, he fights his wars with it at the highest possible level. In his previous position as a provincial minister for local government he made headlines time and again with his stance on controversial matters.

His short term as a health minister has been marked by dispute over how to keep health services running within a tight budget. He presented a plan to the public to close some hospitals in the province and has had to field a tidal wave of indignation.

Marais never backs off from a fight and never gives up. He is decisive and sure of himself and controversy does not frighten him.

If the NP's main aim is to win next year's election, Marais is most likely to become premier.

Measured Morkel could unite Nats

MORKEL slots right in with the image of the National Party: old-fashioned good manners, a large (though somewhat unreliable) brain and the ability to make diplomacy and an admired and polite manner.

Although he comes across as the eternal statesman, he is comfortable among the lowliest and the highest and was once described as a man "who knows which fork to use at the table".

Because of his measured, easy and non-confrontational manner, he is the more likely of the two to retain the loyalty of white Afrikaners.

What counts against him is the fact that he is not seen as a particularly hard worker. However, his current portfolio in the Western Cape cabinet as minister of community safety does not leave much room to manoeuvre, hampered as it is by a lack of provincial powers and a puny budget.

It does not help his case, though, that in a province racked with gang violence and drug dealing, he appears to throw his hands in the air and

STATESMAN: Gerald Morkel

whinge about central government. Morkel, it is said, does not have political shrewdness and off-the-cuff wit. With a strong team around him, in which responsibilities and decisions are shared, he could, however, be a unifying force for the NP.

If the head council looks beyond the 1999 elections, Morkel is the probable choice.
the British government, believed that the National Party would benefit from a strong showing in the upcoming elections. However, the political landscape was rapidly changing, and the Labour Party emerged as a formidable opponent.

In the 1970s, the Labour Party began to regain popularity, particularly among working-class voters. The party emphasized social justice and economic equality, appealing to a broad base of supporters. As a result, the National Party faced increasing pressure to adapt to changing times.

The 1980s marked a turning point for politics in the region. The National Party's policies, which had evolved over the years, began to reflect a more centrist approach. This shift in strategy was intended to bridge the gap between the party's traditional constituencies and the growing number of swing voters.

By the mid-1990s, the National Party had made significant progress, securing electoral victories that solidified its status as a leading political force. However, the party continued to face challenges in maintaining its hold on power, as the political climate remained volatile and diversified.

In conclusion, the National Party's journey through the decades illustrates the dynamic nature of political landscapes. From its early days to the present, the party has navigated through various crises, adapting its policies and strategies to remain relevant and competitive in the ever-evolving political environment.
Grassroots appeal ‘puts Marais in lead’

CHENE BLANCHETT
Staff Reporter

ART 29/4/98

Peter Marais appears to be leading the nail-biting race to move into Leeuwenhof.

Inside sources say his “grassroots” appeal has already secured him 49 of the 86 potential votes.

The provincial Minister of Health’s main rival in the race to replace Hernus Kriel as premier and National Party provincial leader is Minister of Community Security Gerald Morkel.

The party’s head committee will elect the new leader tonight, ending months of speculation about which coloured politician has what it takes to secure the coloured vote for the NP in next year’s election. The party has been under pressure to appoint a coloured leader for some time.

Although party members strongly deny a split on the issue of racial lines, there is believed to be some resistance among whites.

The NP’s 90-strong voter college is made up of MPs and members of the provincial parliament and district councils in the province, local government representatives, youth and women’s leagues, and party faithfuls. Only 85 members, of whom 38 are white males, are expected to be present to vote.

Inside sources said 49 members had already indicated their support for Mr. Marais. The rest could vote for Mr. Morkel, but a significant number were expected to abstain because they did not support a coloured leader, a source said.

Few changes are expected to the Western Cape provincial cabinet after today’s election, Clive Sawyer reports.

Whose ambition will burn brighter? — page 10
Last chance to engineer reforms

Andrew Boraince: Local Govt.

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Until the next issue...
Megacity not only option — Boraine

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH
METRO EDITOR

A WAY out of the megacity debate that is threatening to divide councils countrywide was proposed yesterday by Cape Town's city manager Mr Andrew Boraine.

Speaking at a Cape Times/MTN breakfast, Boraine introduced a detailed third option into the heated debate now raising hackles in municipal corridors — neither a megacity nor the present Cape Metropolitan Council and six municipalities.

Boraine’s plan would keep 80% of municipal business — including rubbish collection, road repairs, traffic control and street sweeping — on the local council level.

"Only 20% of business takes place on a metro or mega level," he said.

Boraine agreed with the contention of fellow speaker Constitutional Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Mr Valli Moosa, that the present two-tier system of local government had failed to deliver the goods.

Before the meeting, Moosa told the Cape Times a megacity would not be imposed on the Cape Metropole "if it won’t work."

While agreeing that a single tier adopted no formal stand on the matter and that the ideas he put forward were "entirely my own."

The problem with the conventional megacity approach is that it collapses all the business of local government into a single structure that is not equipped to deal with 80% of the tens of thousands of daily interactions and transactions that take place," he said.

His model provides for a single group of elected councillors who would serve on their local councils and simultaneously on a "metropolitan council of local authorities."

This body would have no administration of its own but would decide on those 20% of issues — like a financial framework, tourism and transport planning — which are far better determined on a metro level. But the same elected councillors would sit on both a local and a metro level.

"It requires a lot of lateral thinking but is a viable option to both..."

Plan to pool municipal revenue

CT 23/4/98

 models," Boraine said.

In contrast, the present Cape Metropolitan Council is a large administration, separate from the six independent municipalities. Sixty percent of the councillors on the CMC are nominated by their municipalities and 40% come from party lists.

Boraine proposed that self-funded services — like water and sanitation, solid waste and electricity — should be organised into public companies and separated from all other local government functions.

All revenue would have to be pooled and shared on an equitable, predictable and sustainable basis.

"Local government in our Cape Metropolitian area is a R5-billion business. It employs 30 000 staff and services over three million residents. It is in fact a larger business than certain provinces."

After the meeting, Moosa said Boraine's plan fell within the second option proposed in the White Paper.
Western Cape’s new NP Leader: Face from the past

ANC Spurns Morkel, Olive Branch
City evictions row goes to Parliament

Glenn Savage
Political Correspondent

The row between the African National Congress and National Party about attempts to expel two Cape Town city councillors for allegedly interfering in evictions has spilled into Parliament.

Willie Hofmeyr (ANC) told the National Assembly he would ask it to approve a motion accusing the NP of putting party loyalty before the need to eradicate corruption.

Cape Town city manager Andrew Boraine recently proposed the expulsion of city councillors Osborne Adams of the NP and Mogamet Yusuf-Sunpox of the ANC.

He said they had violated the code of conduct for councillors "in a way that amounted to corrupt practices."

Mr Hofmeyr said the ANC, the governing party in the Cape Town council, had demonstrated its seriousness about stamping out corruption and misbehaviour in the council by voting that the councillors be expelled, even though one was an ANC member.

The NP, on the other hand, had put party loyalty before the need to get rid of corruption, and had voted against expulsion.

"The NP went even further and publicly pledged to give financial support to the NP councillor to challenge the decision."

Mr Hofmeyr's motion will ask the Assembly to express concern that the NP seemed happy to criticise the ANC for not dealing with corruption, but took no action when its own elected representatives were guilty of misbehaviour.

It urges the NP to follow the ANC's example by taking firm action against Mr Adams.
Worked on a clear winner in Western Cape Leadership
Kaleidoscope shifts again

Battle's on for the disgruntled vote

By week's end, the Western Cape will know the name of the new provincial National Party leader — which means the new premier. The resignation of self-admitted old guard stalwart Hernus Kriel opens the way for a coloured supremo, who the NP believes will secure it the 1999 election.

The new leader — probably Peter Marais (MEC for health) or Gerald Morel (community safety) — will have a year to revitalise an NP grown arrogant but also vulnerable. What is certain is that NP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk needs to hold the Western Cape against what is shaping up as a strong ANC challenge.

After much stumbling, the ANC has found its own new regional leader — Ebrahim Rasool, who succeeds Justice Minister Dullah Omar. Rasool is young (36) and dynamic, with a seasoned activist record.

He also has experience in governance. During his stewardship of the health portfolio in the now-defunct government of provincial unity, he consistently and credibly deflected the NP's charge that budget cuts were a result of central government's animosity towards the Nat-led province.

Rasool had a major part in the drafting of a key strategy document for last weekend's ANC conference at Kurl's River. It echoes his thinking in an interview with the FM (Current Affairs January 23) by isolating certain challenges to the Western Cape ANC.

NP morale is low. Kriel's leadership style was marked by triumphalism, predicated on an economic and political alliance between whites and middle-class coloureds. Since coloureds make up 57% of the Western Cape population, the NP has chosen to forge this alliance negatively — by suggesting that "Afrikaanses" (a phrase invented by Marais) must stand together against blacks.

Against this, Rasool proposes forging strong links between Western Cape blacks — who come last in the socio-economic queue for health, education and housing — and working-class coloureds. A key to this still-mooted unity could be women, who head many households stricken by poverty, gangsternism and neglect.

The Western Cape's unique ethnic mix cannot be avoided. In the long run, the influx of blacks into the region could throw the province to the ANC. But that is not inevitable. In 1994, racist anti-ANC pamphlets were used in coloured areas to sway anti-black sentiment.

Now, however, voting patterns are changing. As of last September — according to an Idasa poll — 34% supported the ANC, 31% the NP, and an astonishing 30% were undecided or apathetic.

If these figures remain static in 1999 — which is unlikely — the ANC would take the province on a low turnout. However, the NP aims to increase its support in coloured working-class areas. "There are possibilities in the white communities, ... strategy document notes, "but this would not be sufficient".

The ANC should maintain its African base and ensure the apathy and the United Democratic Movement don't affect the turnout of our base."

The fear is that the UDM could provide a alternative home for former ANC supporters disillusioned by failures of delivery. Even more alarming is the prospect of UDM mobilisation leading to township conflict.

Rasool charges the NP with seeking to skew economic growth in the region to create "an island of privilege for the few politically maintained by the fear injected into mostly the coloured working class".

So the ANC must address the question: fear holds the NP alliance together, what's the glue that holds our solidarity together?

The suggested answer lies in an electorate drive aimed at specific communities — the rural poor, demonised teachers, women and simply those grown weary of NP rule and the stigma of its past associations with repression. If Rasool succeeds, he will almost certainly become premier, breaking the NP stranglehold.

Peter Wilton
POLITICAL parties are now gearing themselves for the 1999 elections and already there is a suggestion that Parliament should close shop earlier – in September – to give members enough time to prepare for the campaign.

In the Western Cape the two major parties, the African National Congress (ANC) and National Party (NP), are already strengthening themselves for a tussle for the votes of the majority coloured community.

Recently, despite reports of organisational disarray, the ANC came out united and elected a popular coloured leader, Ebrahim Rasool, to lead the party into next year's elections.

As a former executive member of the now-disbanded United Democratic Front and founder of the Call of Islam – an organisation that mobilised against apartheid among the Western Cape's Muslim communities in the 1980s – Rasool is believed to have the potential to deliver the coloured vote to the ANC.

His party also hopes that Rasool's previous performance as MEC for health, when he had relative success making health services accessible to the poor before he was deposed by the NP's Hermus Knel – will be another feather in his cap.

Not to be outdone, the NP is likely to have a coloured premier after Knel's announcement this week that he is retiring from politics.

Knel's departure is seen as part of a strategy to retain the coloured vote that the NP received in 1994 when it pipped the ANC in the contest for Western Cape.

The 1999 election is important – it is the first after the ANC took power in 1994 and is therefore a fateful test of whether the party is on the right track in its mission to transform the country from apartheid into a fully democratic society.

Natural progression

Already surveys indicate a decline in support for all the political parties – with more people claiming to be independent. Indications are that even the ANC will not get the 62 percent support that it got in 1994.

Such a decline in support is however explained by one analyst as a natural progression as the political milieu returns to normality after the hype of the first non-racial elections.

In Western Cape the ANC's main challenge is seen by many to be firstly to win the hearts of those coloured voters who put the NP into power in 1994.

To woo the coloured voters, who hold the key to power in Western Cape, the ANC should show how it intends to address gang-related violence on the Cape Flats.

The second major challenge facing the ANC in the Western Cape is to strengthen its base in African communities.

Although the party commands majority support in those areas, it still has to deal with the threat from the Pan Africanist Congress and lately from the newly formed United Democratic Movement (UDM).

Co-led by the former popular ANC MP General Bantu Holomisa, the UDM recently showed its presence in some townships, where there were claims and counter-claims of intimidation by its supporters and ANC members.

Unemployment is another issue that the ANC should convincingly start to address.

This will also strengthen its position in the marginalised African communities.

The ANC intends to strengthen its hand by showing a commitment to the improvement of the quality of life in the poorer communities of the province.

A sign of this intention is the recent appointment of the former MEC for economic affairs and the Reconstruction and Development Programme, Reverend Chris Nissen, as head of the Masakhane campaign.

For the NP the main challenge is to prove to their coloured supporters during the 1994 elections that the party remains their political home and that the NP will ensure that they become beneficiaries of the process of transformation which the country is currently undergoing.

The NP also faces the mammoth task of proving to the coloured people that it has delivered something besides being in opposition to the ANC.

As it is, it is generally felt that the party has failed to address poverty and the ongoing gang-related violence in the Cape Flats, where innocent children have often been victims caught in the crossfire.

The other challenge, of course, is to make inroads into African communities in line with the party's new non-racial image.

However, in this regard the NP is seen by many Africans to be contradicting itself because of its continued opposition to whatever policy is put before Parliament aimed at improving the quality of their lives – be it affirmative action, the new Employment Equity Bill, the move by the Government to integrate education or even the integration of previously black and white municipalities, such as their opposition to the move to integrate Khayelitsha and Bellville.

[Image: Flashback to an ANC election rally in Cape Town in 1994.]

When brown counts

As the 1999 elections draw closer an interesting and often amusing battle is being waged in Western Cape to woo the coloured vote. Ido Lekota explains why...
Defeated
Marais says
vote ‘rigged’

JUDITH SOAL, KARIN SCHMIDT AND FATIMA SCHROEDER

DEFEATED National Party leadership candidate Mr Peter Marais early this morning accused the National Party of rigging the vote for leadership of the party and premiership of the Western Cape.

An emotional Marais told the Cape Times that “canvassing and triple-checking” showed that he had 54 votes and the winner, Mr Gerald Morkel, 32 votes, in the lead-up to the final ballot. But when the results were announced, Morkel was said to have won by 53 votes to 34.

Marais said, “There is a clique in the party that betrayed me and it hurts. I would like to know what made them change their minds and who gave them instructions. It eats me up.”

Asked to elaborate, he said, “I am too upset to talk about this any further.”

He was earlier quoted as saying, “I am going home to my wife and kids to reconsider my future in the party.”

Whatever the truth or otherwise of Marais’ words, in the final analysis, stability won a convincing victory over flamboyance last night in Morkel’s election as new NP leader in the Western Cape.

The new leader takes over from Premier Hermus Kriel, who announced his resignation on Monday. Morkel will become the premier on May 11.

Morkel, who is not known for his charm or sudden announcements of intentions to “get back to basics,” immediately announced his intention to “get back to basics.”

“My desire is to reduce the crime rate and enhance economic growth so as to create jobs,” he told the crowd outside the NP offices after his victory was announced last night.

“Nog net meer promises,” shouted a heckler, reflecting a large section of the 200-strong crowd’s preference for his opponent.

The people weren’t the only ones favouring Marais. Insiders said yesterday the fact that the firebrand leader was also Premier Hermus Kriel’s choice did not sit well with ex-Labour Party members.

Cynical commentators say Morkel got the nod because

Morkel ‘more controllable’ than Marais

he is more controllable than Marais, who has a tendency for unpredictable outbursts.

Also, Morkel’s image is seen to be more acceptable to the loyal white constituency that is the backbone of the NP.

Kriel was seen consoling a tearful Marais after the announcement, but said later that Morkel was “a wise choice.”

Asked if Marais was angry, Kriel said it was “more a question of disappointment.”

An ANC statement said the election of Morkel “changes nothing in the Western Cape.”

The party said Morkel had already failed the province.

“As an NP cabinet member he sidelined African and coloured business when it came to contracts with the province and as Community Safety MEC he has presided over the highest crime rate in the country.”

The DP called Morkel a “compromise” candidate.

“We regard him as an honourable man who has been placed by his peers in a caretaker role to patch up a party in trouble.”

Yet Morkel was in a magnanimous mood last night. He invited Marais to share his platform and promised to support him in his work. He also offered the ANC a role in provincial government.
Nat peace bid after votes row

Beaten Marais backs off

By Clive Sawyer

Political Correspondent

After a post-election outburst, Peter Marais, tinned by Gerald Morale in the Western Cape leadership race, has assured National Party leader

Murtus Mun Schalkwyk of his

loyalty, and is not expected to quit

the party.

Mr Morale said today he fully expected Mr Marais to be back at his post next week

Remarks by an unhappy

Mr Marais, who was quoted as saying he believed last night's provincial NP leadership election was rigged and was recons

idering his political future, were described by Mr Morale and Mr Van Schalkwyk as the result

of the emotions of the moment.

But while the national and provincial leadership issued assurances all was well, it was clear an air of rancour

remained in NP ranks.

Mr Morale's election was welcomed by President Man
dela during a meeting with the

Inter-Religious Commission on Crime and Violence at Thuthuyu.

Mr Mandela described the new premier

of the Western Cape as "a very balanced per

son" and said he had congratulated Mr Morale the morning.

He said he had had extensive dealings

with Mr Morale in his capacity as provincial

Minister for Safety and Security and that he

had no doubt that as the leader of the NP, he

would be co-operative and help to strengthen ties in the province.

But while Mr Mandela was congratulato

ry, the African National Congress in the

Western Cape was more challenging.

It said Mr Marais should quit the NP or

ask for an official investigation into possible

irregularities in the election.

Calculating late yesterday in the Marais

camp were that he could count on a majority

of 54 votes in the electoral college which met

last night.

But the official result was 53 to 54 in

favour of Mr Morale, prompting Mr Marais
to say he had been betrayed by a clique in

the party, and would reconsider his future.

Early today Mr Marais's spokesman,

John Sent, said the defeated candidate was

not available for comment.

Provincial ANC spokesman Cameron

Dugmore said Mr Marais's comments showed the provincial NP in

the province was divided as never before.

Mr Marais should either
call for a probe into the

results, which were arrived at by secret ballot, or should quit the party, Mr Dugmore said.

There were signs of open

division in the NP, indicated by the small crowd which

turned out to witness the elec

tion result, and the fact that

Marais backers continued
their vocal support for their

candidate after Mr Morale's

victory had been announced.

Mr Dugmore said Mr

Morale was the choice of the old guard in the NP and was a "dead man walking" who

would lead the party to electoral defeat.

Mr Marais's reaction to the result was

only one of the reverses for Mr Morale after

his victory.

His offer to the ANC of participation in

the provincial multiparty cabinet, essentially

on the same terms as those under which

the African National Democratic Party and

the Democratic Party hold portfolios, was

rejected without hesitation by ANC pro

vincial leader Fakhruddin Rasool

The ANC said it had spent an extensive

amount of time and effort debating whether

to agree to enter Herman Kriel's remade cabi

net after the implementation of the new

Western Cape constitution, and would not

change its decision not to do so.
SERVICE DELIVERY IS STILL PRIORITY

New leaders pledge an era of integrity

MORIEL AND RASOOL RE-AFFIRM their commitment to the 'integrity' of the political debate and to the delivery of services in the Western Cape. ANDRE KOOPMAN reports.

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela had the new Western Cape leaders of the National Party and African National Congress, Mr Gerald Moriel and Mr Ebrahim Rasool, to lunch yesterday in a move to improve the level of co-operation between the two parties in the province.

At a press conference outside his official residence Gedendal, Mandela described both men as his friends and said he would continue "worrying them" to find commonality across the political divide to increase nation-building.

Moriel, the premier designate, and Rasool said that they would be committed to the "integrity" of the political debate and delivery of services in the province, a theme which was emphasised by Mandela.

Turning towards Mandela, Moriel pledged that he would not allow racism or "swart gevaar" tactics to be employed by his party.

"If it comes to my attention, I will deal with it as soon as possible," he said looking at Mandela. The President nodded.

Mandela said that he had no doubt that Moriel, as new Western Cape premier, would strengthen co-operation between all parties in the province.

He said he had often dealt with Moriel in his capacity as provincial Community Safety MEC, and had always found him to be a very balanced person.

Mandela said that while the ANC was the strongest political movement in South Africa and had delivered more services to the people than any other government in the previous three centuries of oppressive rule, the ANC did not wish to show "contempt or arrogance" towards other political parties.

Moriel described Mandela's statements as "most important" adding that "irrespective of political differences", political parties should be committed to building the nation.

He said that while he and Rasool were bound to disagree, he would make every effort to improve the integrity of the political debate and co-operation in the province.

Rasool said that he was committed to non-racialism in politics and the integrity of the political discourse.

Delivery of services to the most vulnerable in society should be a priority, he said.
ANC mishandled budget, says new trade minister

Clive Sayyer
Political Correspondent

The investigation by provincial auditor-general Willie Brits of the financial dealings of the Western Cape economic affairs ministry while it was under African National Congress control should be finished within three months.

The investigation was requested by Henrie Bester, who inherited the ministry, now called trade, industry and tourism, after the cabinet reshuffle in the wake of the new Western Cape constitution.

An absence of regular and accurate financial statements had allegedly led to the department failing to spend substantial sums of money on worthwhile projects, Mr Bester said yesterday during his budget debate.

He had also referred "one specific matter which had been raised by certain members of this house" to the auditor-general.

Contacted for comment, Mr Bester declined to disclose what this matter was.

Mr Brits confirmed he was conducting an investigation and a performance audit.

As was standard procedure, the performance audit would investigate financial matters and issues such as the cost-effective use of money in the department.

Asked whether he had found irregularities, Mr Brits said investigations were still at an early stage.

He confirmed he had sent two "management letters" to Mr Bester's department requesting information. His findings would be ready in about three months.

The economic affairs portfolio was held first by the then provincial ANC leader Allan Boesak, who was succeeded by Chris Nissen.

Mr Nissen has since left the ANC leadership and the legislature to head up the Masakhane campaign.

Mr Bester told the provincial legislature the department he inherited had had serious management problems.

His first task when he took over had been to bring stability and certainty to the financial management of the department.

He had requested the auditor-general's investigation and had set up an audit committee consisting of representatives of his department and the auditor-general's office.

An experienced government accountant had been appointed on a contract basis to regularise the systems of financial approval, accounting and payment in the department.

It was hoped with these measures to have regular and accurate financial statements available to the management team of the department.

"The absence of such statements was a major problem in the past (and) resulted in the department failing to spend substantial amounts of money on worthwhile projects in the previous financial year," Mr Bester said.

Mr Nissen could not be reached for comment.
western cape planning crisis
merging scores and claims of
anc and claims of
draft bill will not be steamrolled through legislative
Dispute over controversial planning bill

Linda Ernst
CAPE TOWN — Controversial Western Cape legislation which would concentrate power over planning in the hands of the MEC would not be bulldozed through the legislature and was open to negotiation, planning and administration MEC Kobus Merring said yesterday.

However, Merring said there was no way the provincial government, as the elected representatives of the people, could be excluded from the process.

He emphasised that the Planning and Development Bill had not been finalised. All submissions would be carefully scrutinised.

The African National Congress and a range of community and non-governmental organisations have protested that the bill gives the MEC unlimited discretionary power to override the views of local authorities and the public.

Even the National Party-controlled Cape Metropolitan Council was against its provisions, ANC planning spokesman Garth Strachan said yesterday.

Strachan called for the bill, which the ANC believed was unconstitutional, to be scrapped. He also urged the establishment of a commission of inquiry to investigate the "planning crisis" in the province which was threatening its scenic beauty. A task team should also be set up to draft alternative legislation, he said.

The proposed bill circumvented the national Development Facilitation Act, which was promulgated to hasten the demise of apartheid planning. The bill also failed to include meaningful environmental protection measures.
Learning the blind

Read the blind

Viral Statistics

Last playoff to feel: I know my own mind
Likely to say, You're making a mistake
Congress votes
Latest criminal elements: Social media
Pinkerton people: Corrections Ward
Born: Flight seven years ago in Pitkin, Cape

No matter how speedily you do the job
A proposed laboratory, and this is a necessary
the criminal parliament in 1878. By the
.parameters their budget was set, and the
much of the police officer is part of such
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so means to protect that the N.S.
Missing piece

Party leaders wanted

The horn without who would take over
and go someone

What happened is that the police officer is part of such
wars. Donovan after the traditional one
so means to protect that the N.S.
Missing piece

The horn without who would take over
and go someone

What happened is that the police officer is part of such
wars. Donovan after the traditional one
so means to protect that the N.S.
Missing piece
The NP Plan

WHO IS . . . GERALD MORKEL?
Why cops probed smear

Andy Duffy

The National Party's new Western Cape leader, Gerald Morkel, played a central role in responding to a convoluted and bastardised sex claim against Van Schalkwyk, the provincial minister and police minister. Morkel, provincial police MEC and now premier-elect, was party to the decision to fire senior investigators on the case. The office says Morkel had wanted to avoid later accusations that police had failed to investigate properly, or claims of cover-up.

It has also emerged that one day after that John David Hermanus, the complainant against Van Schalkwyk, had travelled to Cape Town to meet with police and politicians stretching from Table View to Pretoria.

The Mail & Guardian decided to report the probe last week, following an approach by Senior Superintendent Attie Trollip — the province's top sex abuse sleuth who was quickly assigned to the case. Until then, the MEC had withheld the story of Hermanus's allegations because of a lack of independent corroboration.

Morkel's office says the decision to give the case high priority was justified. The possibility of the resultant publicity was not a consideration.

Morkel's representative David Frost says that, as the case had already been lodged, "there was an expectation it would come out in any case. If the leader of the opposition is involved in any allegation, it will surface.

"It was a case of being 100% sure that no one could say the police did not investigate properly," he adds. "It was good judgment on our part to give the information to see if there was an issue, and to put a massive man on to investigate the facts so there could be 100% transparency." The Fourie, NP MP and Van Schalkwyk's legal adviser, says "Sure, the fact that Attie Trollip is on the case will attract everybody's attention, and more likely that (a journalist) will be in a position to write a story.

Trollip is one of the top officers in the serious violent crime division, and a key figure in the fight against Cape gangsters.

Morkel didn't check whether the boy claim against Van Schalkwyk — serious sexual abuse with an adult — was a crime. The investigation ran for 14 days before Trollip decided the allegation did not constitute a crime — as the MEC report last week following a call to provincial Attorney General Frank Kahn.

Trollip's role is well defined as he "dealing with sexual crime" was well understood. The MEC had been lectured frantically by the National Women's Liberal League and others about the need to protect children. Trollip's role in the affair was uncomforatably with the NP's attempts to portray Van Schalkwyk as a caring victim and their media campaign orchestrated by the AfriForum National Congress. Trollip's involvement came the day after the appointment of a successor to Hermanus Kriel as Western Cape leader — a context we think, partly, in Van Schalkwyk's lobbying.

Morkel called Van Schalkwyk hours after he was briefly on the Hermansus charge "have been aware about the allegations for some time and considering a public statement at some point."

Trollip told the South African Police Service that Van Schalkwyk "was happy to be the one that everyone should be aware of the issue.

"However, when I was phoned by Gerald Morkel who informed me that Hermanus had last a charge. I decided to allow the police to investigate and not to make a statement.

The NP has spent much of the past week accusing Hermanus's claim, aligning the ANC managed the whole affair (which it denied), and threatening legal action against Hermanus and the MEC.

The party failed to say that 11 years ago a police motion confusing the MEC report. The motion noted "the possible involvement of journalists in the public political members and/or functionaries in the events leading up to the publication" — which, taken to its logical conclusion, would also include Morkel.

Trollip expects to finish his investigation next week. He says he found nothing to substantiate Hermanus's claim that Van Schalkwyk had past contact Rb for gay sex. Trollip said he could not say even more years ago, he was the house -bird to the site of the alleged incident did not check out.

Voorberg prison, where Hermanus is serving a five-year sentence for his, has no records to support Hermanus's claim that NP representatives invited him to discuss buying his silence.

The prison records show only four visits to Hermanus in the last year. Three by NP supporters and one by ANC branch executive Steve Carolus — Hermanus's initial lead on the target of the NP's watch. Trollip discussed the possibility of chronic sex abuse with his superiors this week and delivered the report.

The conclusion of the sexual abuse case does not exist, so there can't be such a charge.

The closure of the charge affects the second allegation — that Van Schalkwyk had dispatched mumps to that Hermanus.

"You cannot corrupt anyone over something that is not a crime," Trollip added.

The allegations initially did appear to constitute a sex crime, Trollip says, but he decided not to pursue further, unbacked discussions with Hermanus.

Trollip is now looking at other possibilities, including bringing charges against Hermanus for wasting police time.

He is also studying statements from Carolus and MEC reporters.

The RCP has identified the official links in the chain that pulled Hermanus's claim from a jail cell to the public arena Hermanus had one of the police stations on Thursday April 20 — the day Morkel was elected new NP leader in the Western Cape, some 150km away in Plettenberg Bay.

"Sure, the fact that Trollip is on the case will attract everybody's attention.

Hermanus called the MEC on Friday morning, Reports confirmed the bare details of the address, and contacted Luttrells, the former police minister, who had been called to the newspaper's editor, to direct all inquiries about the case to the police public relations unit.

Trollip contacted the MEC before it could make any further inquiries — a call that immediately persuaded the paper to publish.

In a statement sent to Trollip's office, one MEC reporter stated "[Hermanus] last week a day wanted to take a charge I told him that he was probably right. First because something wasn't a crime, second because he had left me more than two years later, and third because I suspected the police, even if they were interested, would have handled it as much as we had to build a credible case.

Hermanus told the Trollip's this week he would not regret pressing the charge, nor had he considered pulling it. He also denied, as the NP claimed, that he had told police Carolus advised him to drop the charge. Trollip supports his denial.

"He said he played against because now the legal advice is that the case is now much stronger," says he.
Protest was not misguided — union

(39)

Andres Kriel argues that education threats to Southern African coming and textile workers union

Committee. Montreal activities will not be easy to the recent Western Cape Case his belief to any gathered whites
Morkel picks ex-parabat as police minister

CLIVE SAUYER (26)
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

New Western Cape police minister Mark Wiley says he will be looking for solutions and not excuses in tackling crime in the province.

"I am an ex-paratrooper, and paratroopers make do with what they can and use their own initiative," he said.

He was responding to a question about his approach to his new job in the light of the severely limited powers provincial police ministers have under the constitution.

Mr Wiley’s appointment was announced yesterday by Western Cape Premier-elect Gerald Morkel, who until now has held the community safety portfolio.

It will take effect when Mr Morkel takes office as Premier on May 11.

Mr Wiley was a member of the Senate’s correctional services and environmental affairs committees and this gave him a sound background for the portfolio, Mr Morkel said.

Mr Wiley said he considered his appointment an honour and a challenge.

It was “early days” to spell out his vision for combating crime in the province.

While sources close to Mr Morkel have indicated that other changes are unlikely to the cabinet inherited from outgoing Premier Heruns Kriel, a question mark remains over the future of former culture minister Martha Olickers, who resigned after court action over an alleged extra-marital liaison.
Radebe vetoes bid to privatise Cape Assels

State land sale battle looms
First state land management company on the cards

Linda Enso

CAPE TOWN — A private company dedicated to the management and development of the Western Cape government's extensive property portfolio is to be created before the end of the year, MEC for public works, asset management and media, Michael Louw, said yesterday.

The province's public works department, to be called Western Cape Properties, would be the first in SA to be privatised.

Louw told members of the provincial legislature on his budget vote that the firm, fully owned by the province and with its own board of directors, would aim to maximise returns and enhance socioeconomic transformation.

Strategic properties would be included in a development fund, which would be set up to invest in development projects. "At the same time it will optimise exceptional investment opportunities and ensure market-related returns for investors," Louw said.

"Because of the strategic placing of the Western Cape, I believe it would make Western Cape Properties the leading development fund in SA."

The board of directors of the company would consist of heads of departments, as well as representatives of finance, commerce, labour, and the property and construction industries.

Quick sales to generate short-term profits would be resisted in favour of developing provincial land on a leasehold or joint venture basis. There would also be properties earmarked for private sector participation.

"The company's modus operandi will be to seek innovative ways in which existing land and structures in its portfolio can be improved on to generate long-term recurring income for the Western Cape," Louw said.

He motivated the creation of a private company on the grounds that it would enhance the integrity and transparency of the sale of state assets.

Also, a company would be able to operate more efficiently than a government department as it would not have to submit to bureaucratic red tape and would be able to offer competitive salaries to top professionals in the field.

"Any additional costs incurred in going the route of a private company will be more than offset by increased income from the professional management of the property portfolio," Louw said.

"We are dedicated to proving that professional property portfolio management and viable commercial development can take place in a socially responsible way."

(263) 8019/15/98
Council coup plot rocks Nats

The United Democratic Movement has launched a bold initiative to try to seize control of the South Peninsula municipality from the National Party.

It aims to persuade selected NP councillors to cross the floor to form a coalition with councillors of the Democratic Party, African National Congress and independents.

Preliminary approaches by the UDM to its potential partners have been made at senior level.

The developments follow last week’s victory by the DP in Bergville-Meadowburn, a ward of the South Peninsula municipality.

They are the latest turn as the NP reels in the wake of by-election defeats and defections of its municipal councillors elsewhere.

But the UDM approach has put the DP in a dilemma because of an existing 1996 deal with the NP on power-sharing in the metropolitan council.

On a political level, the DP has campaigned in recent by-elections on the basis of it being an effective opposition to the ANC. A coalition at local level with the ANC could jeopardise this image.

There are 36 seats on the South Peninsula council. Twenty-one of these are held by the NP, nine on the proportional representation list and 12 in wards.

The ANC has three proportional representation seats and one ward, the DP has two proportional representation seats and two wards and the UDM has two wards. There are three independents holding ward seats, one by the Lotus River and Grassy Park Civic Association and one is vacant, with a by-election due in September.

With only 15 of 36 seats in non-NP hands, it would require a considerable feat for the UDM to pull off its scheme because seven NP councillors would have to defect. Any on the proportional list would forfeit their places if they leave the party.

ANC provincial spokesman Cameron Dugmore said the party had not been formally approached, with regard to the attempted moves but it was clear "the realignment being attempted by the UDM was a further indication of the crisis facing the NP."

"The UDM moves are not the only troubles faced by the NP. NP Youth Action members yesterday met Premier Gerald Morkel to discuss their role in the party and relationship to senior leadership."

"The NP faces another test today as voters in Bloekombos settlement vote in a municipal by-election."

*ANC expects easy victory, page 5*
IT'S FOR YOU: Archbishop Desmond Tutu told the crowd gathered to celebrate his becoming a freeman of Cape Town that God had told him South Africa was going to succeed

Arch gets freedom of city he helped to free

ROGER FRIEDMAN AND PENNY GODI
SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS TEAM

DESMOND TUTU said yesterday he was honoured to receive the freedom of the City of Cape Town on behalf of all anti-apartheid leaders who were jailed, exiled and banned, whose enforced absence from the fray created the space for him to become a "leader by default."

"I receive it, really, as a representative capacity," an emotional archbishop told about 1,500 people squeezed into the Civic Centre concourse, "on behalf of the women who were extraordinary in their resilience, the youth, the religious community, all the citizens of Cape Town."

"Where would I be without you? What is a leader without followers? You wouldn't see a leader unless other people were holding him up or her on their shoulders," Tutu insisted.

He said South Africa had much to celebrate: "Sometimes when I am a little depressed I go to Parliament and sit in the public gallery. I look at all these people sitting there, all these 'terrorists' sitting there, but now you have to call them The Honourable Minister of Finance and so on. It is quite extraordinary what God has done with us."

Tutu said South Africa should celebrate the fact that the recent racial tension centred around Vryburg High School in North-West Province was an aberration, not the norm. And the country should celebrate such things as Melanie Verwoerd, granddaughter-in-law of the architect of apartheid H F Verwoerd, sitting in the ANC benches in Parliament.

Tutu paid special tribute to his wife, Leah, asking that she be given a warm round of applause. She received a standing ovation.

Afterwards, he told the Cape Times: "People actually don't know that Leah is much more radical than I am, politically. And that she's a great deal more intellectual than I".

"I'll tell you one thing about Leah. Louis le Grange, the former minister of law and order; at one time attacked me saying I talked too much. I asked Leah if she would like me to shut up. She said she'd much rather have me happy on Robben Island, than unhappy outside. It was not a light thing for her to say."

See Page 6
Row flares over state asset sales

Province sticks to its guns

(ANL) 21/6/98

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A major row has erupted between the Western Cape government and national government over an attempt by the province to sell off millions of rands of public property and keep the money for itself.

Michael Louis, provincial minister of asset management, public works and media, disclosed details of the row in a speech to the National Council of Provinces yesterday.

The provincial legislature last month approved the Western Cape Land Administration Act, which provides for acquisition and disposal of immovable property by the provincial government.

Mr Louis said the bill had been initialed by the African National Congress predecessor, Leonard Ramatnakane, and approved unanimously by the legislature.

The bill provides for a provincial capital account into which the proceeds of any disposal of provincial state land must be paid.

Mr Louis said he had been told at a meeting of national and provincial ministers of public works that all proceeds of all sales of assets and leases in the provinces should revert to the Government.

He was told this decision had been taken by the inter-governmental forum.

"We are unaware of such a decision and after various requests to the (national) director-general, in the past two months and personal promises by him, we are still not in possession of any minutes recording such a decision,"

Premier Gerald Morkel and Director-General Niel Barnard also were unaware of such a decision, he said.

The matter was serious and had to be solved in a spirit of co-operative government, said Mr Louis. But he made it clear the province intended sticking to its guns.

The Western Cape stood by the rights given it by the constitution.

"We will regard all assets that are linked to provincial functions as provincial assets and the proceeds from the sale of such assets are to be paid into a provincial capital fund,"

Mr Louis said it was "impossible to understand" how the Western Cape or any province should have to close schools and hospitals and retrench teachers and not be able to look after infrastructure.

This had to be turned around by looking after assets by good property management.

"Many buildings are standing empty, vast tracts of land are undeveloped and we continue to rent buildings from other landlords when, by innovative good property management and development, we could provide the accommodation ourselves."

But a spokesman for national Public Works Minister Jeff Radebe said the Exchequer Act determined that the proceeds of the sale of public assets, as was the case with the proceeds from the restructuring of assets like parastatals, had to be paid into national coffers.

The sale of provincial land was not included among sources of provincial revenue recognised by national law.

The Western Cape's law would be raised at the next meeting of national and provincial ministers and an attempt would be made to resolve the issue in discussions.
Blow to Nats as member of South Council defects to DP

‘NP’s days numbered’

Southern Peninsula councillor Bill Stibbe, elected as a National Party member but who subsequently resigned to sit as an independent, today joined the Democratic Party.

The move follows closely on the heels of a United Democratic Movement scheme to use defecting Nats and an alliance with other parties to ostracize the NP from control of the council.

The Democratic Party has refused to play along with the scheme, sinking its chances of success, because it will not enter an alliance which includes the African National Congress.

Mr Stibbe said today the NP had failed to adjust to its role as an opposition and it was apparent to all that the party’s days were numbered.

“I have joined the DP because of the good leadership of Tony Leon in Parliament and Hennie Bester in the Western Cape.”

Mr Stibbe said he identified with the DP’s respect for the individual and the encouragement of free thinking in the party.

“The tide has turned in favour of the DP. After some research in my ward, I am of the opinion that the majority of voters in Plumstead-Southfield-Deep River support Tony Leon and Hennie Bester.”

As a ward councillor, Mr Stibbe retains his seat in spite of changing party allegiance, unlike councillors elected on party lists.

Mr Bester, outlining reasons for the Democratic party declining to take part in the UDM-Southern Peninsula takeover plan, said: “The African National Congress already has far too much power in South Africa.

“It is in the interest of good government and democracy that the ANC not be allowed to extend its power further.”
Top-ranking ANC, NP members defect to DP

JOVIAL RANTAO

A SENIOR National Party MP and a high-ranking member of the ANC have defected to the Democratic Party, boosting the morale of a party that has scored a hat-trick in recent by-elections in Gauteng and the Western Cape.

Minutes after he had delivered his speech during the public service budget vote as an NP member, Donald Lee walked to the office of NP leader Martinus van Schalkwyk to hand over his resignation and hand over his seat in the National Assembly. He became the first national politician to cross the floor since the establishment of a democratic Parliament.

In the Eastern Cape, Nocawa Nondumo, a member of the ANC Women’s League national executive committee and deputy chairperson of the ANCWL in Tsikamma, has joined the DP.

Yesterday another NP member, Bill Gibbe, of the Southern Peninsula municipality, also joined the DP.

At a news conference later, Lee said he had decided to leave after it became clear a clique in the NP in the Eastern Cape was bent on ensuring that blacks and coloured members did not reach the highest positions in the party.

Events in the NP in the Eastern Cape over a long period have made me, like many who have resigned from the party, very uneasy. After last weekend’s caucus and head council meetings, however, I realised that nothing has changed.

"Last year, membership lists were being rejected to ensure that coloured people would not have a significant voting influence at the congress. This year there are problems with the lists of black people from the Transkei. All this is driven by a power-hungry clique that is unsassailable. They’re untouchable. I have decided that I can no longer associate myself with a party that subordinates the interests of its voters to those of its leaders," Lee said.

He said at least 6 000 NP members in Port Elizabeth north had also joined the DP.

Douglas Gibson, chairperson of the DP’s Federal Council, said Lee would be instrumental in broadening the DP’s appeal.

He said the defections would help the DP to replace the NP as the official opposition.

Nondumo said she had joined the DP because she felt “the need for change.”

“Pee learned what it means to have checks and balances in government. A strong opposition is necessary in the interest of democracy.”
More office bearers join NP defections to DP in the Cape

CAPE TOWN — The defection of National Party leaders in the Eastern Cape to the Democratic Party gathered momentum yesterday when MP Donald Lee announced he would resign immediately from Parliament to work full time for the party.

ANC Women's League NEC member Nocawu Nondumo from the Eastern Cape and Bill Shibbe, a former NP councillor in Cape Town's southern peninsula council, also joined the DP.

Lee, said to be a close friend of prominent Eastern Cape defector Tertius Delport, said he had had enough of racist manipulation of membership lists by the Eastern Cape NP leadership. This was aimed at depriving him of his legitimate power base and his ability to influence decisions in the party.

"Last year membership lists were rejected to ensure that coloured people would not have a significant voting influence at the congress. This year there are problems with the lists of black people from the Transkei," Lee said.

After the NP's caucus and head council meetings last weekend, he realised that nothing had changed in the party "A bitter struggle for positions of power is once again brewing."

Sapa reports that Lee said at the media conference immediately after he had told NP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk of his decision to quit, that the actions to which he had taken exception were "driven by a power hungry clique which is, for some reason or other, unassailable."

Lee said that he believed the DP and NP shared common basic principles, but that the racism in the NP prevented it from implementing those principles. His task in the DP would be to broaden support, particularly among coloured voters. Lee had decided he could no longer associate himself with a party which subordinated the interests of its voters to those of its leaders. "The DP is the only party with a solid base of principles which can offer a political home to voters who oppose the ANC."

Welcoming Lee into the party, DP federal council chairperson Douglas Gibson saluted his courage.

"Make no mistake, vacating your seat in Parliament is not an easy choice for anyone to make," Gibson said. The party knew of many more public representatives in the NP and other parties who would like to cross the floor to the DP.

Shibbe said the departure of former NP leader PW de Klerk had been the final nail in the coffin of the party which could not adjust to its role in opposition.

Nondumo said she believed a strong opposition was in the best interests of democracy. "We have had political change, but for years little economic change and empowerment has taken place," she said.
NOTHING ABNORMAL: NE for poor ventilation and de-

Mme: Clouds MEC's denials

DE JAGER Sought Aid for Home's Training Project
Western Cape, Gauteng tops in administration

JOVIAL BANTAO
PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

THE Western Cape and Gauteng are the best run provinces in the country, while Northern Province and the Eastern Cape are the worst, according to Auditor-General Hen Kruess.

In a report tabled in Parliament yesterday, Kruess said financial administration in the provinces remained a source of grave concern. He said Parliament should reconsider its role in the governing of provinces where 54% of public spending occurred.

Kruess said most of the problems faced by the provinces arose from the amalgamation of the former TBVC homelands. The result of an audit of the former TBVC states confirmed the White Commission's report that R1.5-billion in salary over-payments had been made in those areas.

There was a serious lack of internal checking and control over a wide spectrum of the activities of certain provinces, he said, creating opportunities for irregularities.

Problems included:

- Inadequate financial and budget control.
- Inadequate asset control.
- Non-compliance with treasury instructions and other financial regulations.
- Insufficient control over pension payments.

Kruess noted, however, that there were encouraging efforts in some provinces to address the inefficiencies and corruption.

"Some provinces have embarked on specific anti-corruption campaigns with good results."
Not a hint of fat or gravy and no room for employee salary increases. That's the city's new R3,2-billion budget that puts the poor first. And, although there is more to be done with this budget—which is less than last year's in real terms—ratepayers will not be asked to dig much deeper into their pockets.

The 10% across the board rates increase that was approved by the Cape Town City Council yesterday is less than last year's 12.5% increase.

Rates and tax bills that average households receive after July 1 will be up by between 8% and 9%, while water and electricity charges will rise by 7% and 12% respectively.

"We will have enough money for the essential priorities, which are to maintain services in the established areas while concentrating on essentials like housing, sanitation, water and infrastructure for the poor," said the city's financial director, Philip van Rynsveld, in a pre-budget interview with the Cape Times.

"There are tens of thousands of poor people who still do not have these basic facilities."

Council income will effectively be less than it was last year because of the lower rates increase and because all indicators point to a 25% cut in the national government subsidy that the city receives.

Because this budget has not increased from last year, there is less money to do more with this year.

While existing services have to be maintained, over one-sixth (R56 million) of the new budget will go to low-cost housing and new water services.

Shortfalls will be made up and development stimulated by keeping the tightest reign on spending and by making the most of revenue-generating opportunities, said Van Rynsveld.

For example, significant changes to the traffic services will be made by making sure that transgressors are caught and fined so that the money can be channelled to upgrade and maintain traffic services.

"We plan to make RT20 solve 80% of the problems," said Van Rynsveld, playing on the popular 80/20 concept that describes how 80% of the population has always benefited from only 20% of the wealth.

Another budget ploy to "do more with less" is to create jobs by attracting businesses into the council's domain with a far smaller increase in charges for electricity (5.5% to 6%) than domestic users.

Costs have also been cut in this budget by a precedent-setting move that bases expenditure on the number of employees the council currently has.

This is a break from the common practice by local authorities to include vacant posts in budgets in order to leave "room to move" or space to accommodate unforeseen costs and salary increases.

"Any extras will have to come from cuts and possible restructuring," said Van Rynsveld.

Executive Committee chairperson Nombandla Mleko

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"We must start a culture of a workforce being used to its maximum benefit."

"The key thing for me is that this council is going to spend less than last year—indeed, do more."

"Doing more with less is what it is all about," said Mleko, whose operation was given the same A-rating as organisations like the National Building Society, Boland Bank and Pick 'n Pay Stores.

Being rated as such a good creditor and competitor with the private sector is an attribute all local authorities had to strive towards if local government was going to be successful, said Mleko.

But she stressed that prudent, ingenious spending was not enough.

Instead of being concerned with council matters only as far as rates increases were concerned, Mleko sent a plea to ratepayers to become more active and interested in municipal affairs.

She warned that local government would not reach people effectively unless they participated and put pressure on elected representatives to perform in key areas.
It will be a year of pain for the Western Cape, with no overspending and no additional funds available for the health and education departments, provincial Finance Minister Lampie Fick warned today.

But there would be light at the end of the tunnel within two years, Mr Fick told a press conference on the province’s finances where he was joined by Health Minister Peter Marais. They announced that:

- National government departments and other provinces owed the Western Cape a total of R238-million, which could be used to employ hundreds of teachers and nurses.
- Valkenberg Hospital would definitely close, except for the forensic unit.
- Sixty beds would close in the north wing of Somerset Hospital.

Mr Marais said: “Let me remind people there are three other psychiatric hospitals in the province - Lentegeur, Stikland and Alexandra hospitals.”

Mr Fick said that if the province could save on health and education this year, there would be a surplus of funds within two years. Public servants could then again be employed for specific professions.

He said other provinces “owed us R146-million and national departments R30-million” interest on the money owed by other provinces, for the rendering of specialised health and education services, was running up to R22-million a year.

These funds could have been used to employ about 600 nurses and 220 teachers.

Mr Marais appealed to health workers not to apply for voluntary severance packages after September because the savings for his department would be too small. Workers could apply before July 1, he said.
**W Cape gets tough on R148-m dept**

The Western Cape government is planning to tighten the screws on its provincial departments, with a focus on reducing expenditure and cutting non-core functions. The province has announced that it will be implementing a series of measures to address the $1.48 billion budget deficit, including

- **Cutting non-core functions:** The government is looking to reduce non-core activities, such as administration and support services, to free up funds for essential programs.
- **Increasing transparency:** The province is committed to increasing transparency in its financial operations to ensure accountability and prevent waste.
- **Budget reallocation:** Budgets will be reallocated to prioritize essential services and programs, ensuring that the people of the Western Cape receive the best possible services.

"We are taking decisive action to address the budget crisis," said Premier Alan Winde. "Our goal is to ensure that every cent is spent wisely, and this means making tough decisions about some of our non-core functions."

The measures are expected to have a significant impact on the province's finances, and the government is confident that it can achieve a balanced budget for the coming fiscal year.
‘Life-saver’ sparks blazing row
Device aimed at preventing shack fires is turned into a political football

BABALWA SHOTA

THE Cape Town inventor of a device aimed at preventing shack fires found instead that it became the focus of a blazing political row.

John Jackson said he never expected his fire prevention device to spark such a negative reaction. The gadgets had been designed to protect Primus stoves and keep lamps and candles upright so they do not set the shacks alight.

"I am disappointed that things have turned out this way. The kit was designed to save lives and not be used as a political football."

The drama started when the NP-controlled Western Cape government bought 150,000 kits for R2.2 million to be supplied free to informal settlements.

ANC provincial leader Ibrahim Rasool reported the purchase to Mr Justice William Heath, head of the government's special investigations unit, complaining of "irregularity and nepotism" because there had been no public tender.

The ANC also said Jackson's lawyer had been a special adviser to former NP provincial leader Heman Kriel.

Denying that there were irregularities, Jackson said "What happened is that the report that was leaked to them did not contain the documentation of the South African Bureau of Standards. But we did get their approval and have documents to prove it."

Jackson said he had tried in vain to discuss the invention with Rasool late last year.

This week the launch of the Ufudo fire prevention kit was welcomed by the residents of Site C, Khayelitsha.

One resident, Nomgcobo Danti, who lives in a shack, said she was thrilled that something had at last been invented to help prevent the accidental fires that claimed lives and wreaked havoc in the settlements.

Jackson said he planned to distribute his Ufudo (the Xhosa name for tortoise) invention countrywide as it had been received with much interest by burn units around South Africa.

Overseas companies were also interested in the product and he was looking at the possibility of exporting the Ufudo.

Notwithstanding the initial row, Jackson is positive that the politicians will not overshadow the "real issue, which is saving people's lives."
Freedom over Whirlwinds Arch
Gloves come off in MEC De Jager’s nepotism battle

KARIN SCHIMKE

POLITICAL WRITER

The battle over whether Western Cape Social Services MEC Arnold de Jager is guilty of nepotism intensified yesterday when new accusations were hauled out and used in blistering attacks and counterattacks in the legislature, where a motion that he resign was being debated.

The motion was not carried and De Jager remains the MEC.

However, management in his department was questioned further by new revelations: one brought by the ANC and the other by a former director in his department, who accused De Jager of forcing staff to make an extra grant payment to an old-age home he and his wife Diane have a long-standing relationship with.

Another shock ingredient was added to the debate when Health MEC Peter Maras pointed out that ANC leader Ibrahim Rasool, the former Health and Social Services MEC, had employed his sister as a secretary in his department and that she had been promoted within nine months from this position, earning R25 000 a year, to an assistant director earning R85 000.

"That is unparalleled promotion in the state," Maras stated.

Rasool’s answer was that he would gladly debate his sister’s position and challenged the NP to bring a motion so that it could be discussed in the legislature.

In the meantime, Premier Gerald Moroke has received a letter from Edelina Maforah, former director of social development in the Social Services Department, saying she and her staff were forced to make a payment to the old-age home Helen Bellinghamhof in Oudtshoorn.

The home has been the centre of attention since workers started striking to demand a minimum wage of R1 000 a month. Some earn as little as R350 a month.

They are particularly bitter because the home recently received a frail-care nurses’ training grant in excess of R170 000, over and above the normal state subsidy.

In her letter, Maforah — who is now the chief director of social development in the national Welfare Department — tells Moroke: "The funding of the Bellinghamhof home was not in line with departmental funding procedures. The minister forced me and my staff to fund the nurses’ programme at the home.

"He clearly stated that unless a cheque of R220 000 was made available to him that Friday, when he would be leaving for Oudtshoorn, he would not approve or let us finalise the capacity-building programmes that were submitted to him."

"In short, the minister held us hostage and the only way we could make progress was by awarding a cheque to Bellinghamhof. We therefore negotiated with him to bring the figure down to R177 000."
New Party may be a home for ancestors

Roger Freiman
Report says 6% to 7% rate is the target
Way to boost Cape growth
More jobs, less crime the
‘Fat of land’ plan for public works

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

A GROUND-BREAKING plan has been proposed to transform the Western Cape Public Works Department into a property company on private-sector lines.

This could see schools, hospitals and other public buildings being maintained and upgraded better and more quickly and cost-effectively.

If the idea becomes reality, the money generated by running the department as a business would be used to improve roads, infrastructure and buildings. The province’s economy would be boosted and job-creation would follow.

Mr Michael Louis, MEC for Public Works, Asset Management and Media, told the legislature yesterday how the department could be turned into “Western Cape Properties”, which would manage and develop provincial land and maintain state property.

“It is impossible to understand how a province with land in excess of R25 billion must see itself get rid of teachers, close schools, close hospitals and not look after our roads and our infrastructure.”

He assured the Cape Times this did not imply the wholesale selling of “the family silver”. Provincial assets were the source of future wealth if properly managed.

There would be no short-term profits from quick sales. Where possible, land would be developed on leasehold or in joint ventures. The province’s property company would try to find ways to improve the land and structures in its portfolio to generate recurring income.

Although Louis’s vision that the department become the best property manager in South Africa appears to be endorsed by the Democratic Party and the National Party in the legislature, the ANC is concerned this would not be in the spirit of job-creation.

Louis also mentioned another potential hitch: a national decision that the proceeds of sales of assets and leases in the provinces must revert to the national government.

“For the national government to say that any proceeds must go to a national fund... is treading on dangerous ground. The implication that money we make here must be used to build schools in other provinces could cause major havoc.”

Louis emphasised that the provincial government would be the sole shareholder of the proposed company.

He gave six reasons for wanting to go the private company route:

1. Creating a private entity would enhance integrity and transparency.
2. The company would be able to operate at the level of the efficiency required by the private sector.
3. Better staff appointments could be made, so competition with the private sector could be stimulated. “It is ludicrous that the greatest owner of property cannot attract and pay the best professionals in the industry to enable it to achieve the best results,” Louis said.
4. Prospective tenants would not have to wait while a landlord went through “extraordinary” bureaucratic procedures to develop his property.
5. Property market competition is fierce and the province needed to be ahead of its competitors.
6. There would be more money from the professional management of property.

A register of the province’s property is being drawn up. Louis has found that the province spends R70 million a year on office accommodation in buildings owned by others — although there are vacant offices in provincial buildings.
Council fights proposed board

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN—The possibility of a constitutional challenge to the Municipal Demarcation Bill on the grounds that it limited provinces’ powers to establish municipalities of their choice was raised by the Cape Metropolitan Council at a parliamentary committee meeting on Friday.

As a result of the objections, which were also supported by the Inkatha Freedom Party, constitutional affairs director-general Zam Titus undertook to discuss possible amendments with Minister Vallie Moosa and his officials over the weekend.

It is understood the amendments will be tabled before the Constitutional Development Committee today.

The bill has to be passed quickly through Parliament if the proposed demarcation board is to complete the groundwork for next year’s local government elections in time.

The nub of the objection was that by giving the board the power to determine municipal boundaries before provinces had decided on the types of municipalities they wanted, the bill in effect robbed the provinces of their power to decide on the types.

Advocate Andrew Breutenbach, appearing for the Cape council, warned that local government would be vulnerable if unconstitutional local government demarcation legislation was passed. He also questioned the constitutionality of the Municipal Structure Bill published for comment last week.

Breutenbach said both bills gave the minister and the board roles in the establishment of municipalities and metropolitan areas to which the council objected. The effect was that the minister had ultimate power to decide whether and where a magacy should be established. Furthermore, the demarcation board would have the unconstitutional power to decide what municipalities’ core cities or towns would be.

Breutenbach argued that the constitution required national legislation to define the different municipal types. Only then could the board perform.
Amendments relieve demarcation bill impasse

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The threatened impasse over the constitutionality of the Municipal Demarcation Bill was resolved yesterday when certain amendments were made by constitutional affairs director-general Zam Titus, with the agreement of the Cape Metropolitan Council.

The bill will create a demarcation board and establish criteria for determining municipal boundaries. The council argued that the bill was unconstitutional in that it infringed on its power to establish municipalities of its choice, and opposed the powers given to the minister to decide whether and where a municipality should be established.

Titus said the controversial sections of the bill dealing with the metropolitan councils had been transferred to the Municipal Structures Bill, which would deal comprehensively with the issue of all categories and types of municipalities.

A transfer of a clause of the bill dealing with the policy objectives of the board to the regulation section would get around the council's concern that the public have a say in the determination of policy objectives of the board.

"We are in fact not agreeing with their argument that this is unconstitutional, but we have taken into account their concerns," Titus said.
np can't hide the stench of corruption in vy cape

emblem rezal of the ANC argues that local government is anything but transparent
Bid to save towns from financial collapse

Mother-hen system mooted

The Western Cape government launched a programme this week to ensure the financial future of the province’s rural towns. The move follows news of the fiscal collapse of the town of Nupoorit, in the Eastern Cape, last week.

The small town owes more than R1-million to Sanlam. The town apparently ignored several requests by the assurance company to repay the debt.

The sheriff of the court arrived in the town last week to attach the graveyard, a historical church and other municipal property.

The land and buildings were to be auctioned off. But Sanlam has decided to postpone any action in order to give the town more time to repay the money.

Nupoorit’s mayor, Michonto Mtswe, said the debt was a legacy of the apartheid era and could not be adequately serviced because of the culture of non-payment and high unemployment in the town.

Numerous other local authorities in the Eastern Cape are in a similar position as funds dry up and debts escalate.

In the Western Cape, about 20 small towns are already in financial trouble, or could soon be. They include Citrusdal, Clanwilliam, Knysna, Montagu, Robertson, Plettenberg Bay, Darling, George, Tulbagh, Albertina, Wolfseley, Beaufort West and Prince Albert.

Patrick McKenzie, the provincial minister of local government and gambling, said the Western Cape had launched an innovative project to ensure small towns could meet their financial commitments.

“We have built up a database of the financial situation in each town. We have also sent out directives to local authorities which we have identified as having financial problems or will soon have a cash-flow problem. We have sent out strict instructions and guidelines to these local authorities to apply sound financial management. They must now keep us updated and advised about what they are doing to ensure their financial future,” said McKenzie.

“We have also instructed town clerks to inform us immediately if local councils deviate from approved budgets.”

“We will also launch a financial training programme for inexperienced councillors and officials to ensure sound financial management,” he said.

“We will also propose to the new demarcation board that new boundaries be drawn in the province. However, this will only happen after the next elections (in 1999).”

“Mr McKenzie said their tax bases were too small and revenue from rates too low. “The culture of non-payment for services is playing havoc with their finances,” he said.

“What we have in mind is to link small non-viable local authorities to a larger mother-hen local authority. This means that the cost of services, such as ambulances, refuse removal and fire-fighting equipment, will be shared among the smaller local authorities.”

Mr McKenzie said management audits had already been carried out in most of the towns facing financial problems.

“This is not a political issue. We have to ensure these towns survive. I have told the town clerks in the different towns they have to report any financial mismanagement to the provincial government,” he said.

“They will be held responsible,” he said. “I have told them that even if they resign, they will still be called to task if financial mismanagement took place while they carried the responsibility.”

Mr McKenzie said councillors had, in the past, deviated from budgets. “I have told town clerks that these instances must immediately be reported to my department. Towns must stay within the budget.”

He said local authorities in the Western Cape were in a much better financial position than those in other provinces. Of the 133 local authorities in the province, only about 20 were facing financial problems.

“I believe this is the case because, in most local authorities in the Western Cape, power is shared between political parties.”

“This is true democracy and these political parties keep each other on their toes. It has to a large extent ensured sound financial management.”
A single city management system would be suitable for the Greater Cape Metropolitan Area with optimum centralisation of services, according to the single-city modelling exercise study released today.

The research was aimed at evaluating the suitability of different models proposed in the White Paper on Local Government and their practical applications to different cities. It will also inform the Municipality Structures Bill that will go through Parliament.

Commissioner Bill Sowew, who conducted the study on the Cape metro, said recent steps taken to integrate strategic planning, accelerate decision making, redistribute resources, and maintain standards of service delivery and financial prudence, would form a sound basis for the model.
Big is better for metros — study

There is a compelling administrative and financial need for single-tier municipal government in metropolitan areas, says a regional planning study released yesterday.

Its author, Michael Sutcliffe, formerly of Natal University, said most metropoles had centralised effectively, although there were difficulties in the Western Cape.

Sutcliffe’s conclusions are largely in tune with the Local Government White Paper.

Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Valli Moosa attended a Sutcliffe briefing yesterday.

He said Sutcliffe’s findings would influence a Local Government Municipal Structures Bill. It was published in the Government Gazette on May 22. The public has 30 days to comment.

He hoped Parliament would approve the bill in September before its sitting ended, Moosa said.

The Municipal Structures Bill provides for municipalities to comply with defined categories and types. It sets out a number of responsibilities of municipalities and regulates their functions — Sapa.
CMC given top credit rating

Metro Editor (263)

The Cape Metropolitan Council has been given the highest credit rating of any local authority in South Africa. Following research into the financial affairs of all six municipalities in the metropole and the CMC, independent consultants recently awarded the council a short-term rating of D1+ and a long-term one of AA.

The report also shows that the CMC has "the strongest balance-sheet position among all metros in the country." Among other things, the rating was based on:

- The CMC's strong financial profile and high liquidity levels
- Its strong tax base to fund metropolitan financial functions
- The relatively favourable socio-economic characteristics of the metropolitan area
- The CMC's "experienced and stable management team".

The major risk to the council, says the report, is the possibility of a protracted rates and service payment boycott or continuing low payment levels.

"A further risk is that the local councils will continue to operate at a deficit, requiring continued substantial support from the council," it says.

Earlier this year, the City of Cape Town was assessed by an international company which came up with "high" credit ratings for this council too.

Its short-term rating of A1 and A+ over the longer term gave it the highest credit rating of any municipality in the country.

This basically means that anyone who lends Cape Town money is likely to be paid back.
CMC's R1,4-bn budget passed by angry ANC

'Council can't meet needs of poor'

JEROME CROUS
City Reporter

The African National Congress has supported the Cape Metropolitan Council's R1,4-billion budget, in spite of lashing out at the council's "lack of transformation" and inability to address the needs of the poor.

After executive committee chairman Pierre Uys delivered his budget speech yesterday, ANC caucus leader David Dlal left the council for not implementing affirmative action and spending "shocking" amounts on administration and not enough on services to poor communities.

A solution to addressing the financial "crisis" in the Western Cape was to cut costs by abolishing the two-tier system of local government and implementing the mega-city concept.

Mr Dlal said the ANC supported ratepayers who objected to rates increases and said local authorities, including the CMC, should not keep on increasing rates but should rather re-prioritise their budgets.

In spite of objections, the ANC voted to pass the budget.

Mr Dlal said afterwards the ANC had information that the National Party-controlled CMC would get the budget approved by NP provincial Local Government Minister Patrick McKenzie if they did not get enough support at yesterday's meeting.

"Even if we go all out to say the budget must not be approved, it will be a fruitless exercise and delay the funds which should be sent to the metropolitan local councils which have to finalise their budgets by the end of June," said Mr Dlal.

A major part of the budget was R505-million in grants and contributions to local councils and other outside bodies. The council allocated R76-million for housing with R69-million going to the integrated Service Project, which is building more than 40,000 houses.

Operational assistance to the six local councils to balance their books decreased from R263-million last year to R176-million.

The council is contributing R38.5-million to the Metropolitan Transport Fund to improve the city's transport system, and R8-million is going towards a regional soccer facility.

The council has scaled down its capital expenditure from R357-million to R275-million, with R200-million being spent on bulk services and R75-million on other infrastructure.

Salaries account for R231-million, nearly 33% of the budget.
Budget performance fails to amuse ANC

THE NEW CMC budget is designed to keep spending to the minimum, but the ANC came close to not approving it because “it does not address transformation or the policy factor at all”, reports Metro Editor CLAUDIA CAVANAGH.

A

n unusual curtain-raiser to the Cape Metropolitan Council's budget debate yesterday failed to amuse ANC members, who nearly blocked the all-important budget.

They were visibly shocked when the proceedings were disrupted by a pensioner shrilly demanding her rights.

But their shock turned to dismay and then disapproval when the 20-minute performance, punctuated by comic allusions to members of the house, turned out to be just that.

As a prelude to his budget speech, executive council chairman and National Party member Pierre Uys had arranged for three players from Shoestring Productions to provide some light relief at the usually sombre occasion.

And while most National Party members guffawed at references to water and waste committee chairman David Erleigh dressed in a G-string, driving a Porsche and delivering Perrier water to old-age pensioners, and to Viagara development bonds being a “growth industry”, the ANC remained unimpressed.

“It was a National Party campaign and made no sense,” said ANC leader David Dlali.

“Oh, it was just an icebreaker,” countered Uys, who proceeded to present a lean budget that kept spending to a minimum.

Business levies were not increased at all and the overall operating expenditure increased by 5.9% to R1.4 billion.

Operating expenditure for the next year will be funded mainly by business levies (R475 million) and income from the supply of bulk water and waste services to the six metropolitan local councils (R535m).

Operational subsidies to the six councils have been cut from R209m last year to R176m to comply with the central government policy to phase out subsidies and make local authorities more self-sufficient.

But the ANC was not happy and, according to Dlali, came “very close to not approving it”.

“It does not address transformation or the poverty factor at all. In fact it's the kind of budget we've become used to over the years and are making it clear that while we've approved it, that's not what we wanted to do,” he said.

Dlali also attacked the CMC's “huge administration” and the number of people employed by it.

“Salaries are only 19.2% of the total expenditure,” countered Uys. “You can test this against any other local authority in South Africa and you'll find 30% to 35% and even up to 40% in some cases.”

Democratic Party councillor Pat Hill said the budget was “even better than it sounds because it covers our traditional functions as well as those dumped on us by the national government without any funds to carry them out”.

“I think we should publicise the real achievement here,” he said.

With the debate concluded, it was time for the real game to begin.

“Councillors, councillors, I must remind you that Bafana Bafana is starting very soon,” said CMC mayor William Bantom as he speedily wrapped up the proceedings.
Moosa wins order against province over rural voting

Provincial Affairs Minister Valli Moosa has won an order from the Cape High Court that the Western Cape’s seven rural district councils be elected on a proportional representation basis.

Mr Justice John Foxcroft yesterday ruled that the seven district councils had been improperly constituted for a full year in terms of the Local Government Second Amendment Act no 97 of 1996.

He ordered that the provincial government ensure that the councils were reconstituted on the basis of proportional representation within 60 days.

This decision is expected to have far-reaching implications for the past year’s decisions and financial dealings of the councils – the West Coast, Breede River, the Winelands, Southern Cape, Little Karoo, Central Karoo and the Overberg.

The judge ordered the Western Cape government to pay the costs of the application.

Mr Moosa brought the application last month to force the Western Cape’s MEC for Local Government to implement an amendment to the Local Government Transitional Act that the councils be elected proportionally rather than on a 50-50 basis.

Pieter Marais, the former Minister of Local Government, had failed to implement the amendment by July 1 last year.

The judge said Mr Marais’s actions “suggest he would have continued to oppose the new method of election of district councils for as long as possible”.

Before the High Court ruling yesterday, the plateau district councils had been made up of members of rural councils and of transitional local councils elected on a 50-50 basis.

Mr Moosa said in the application that the status quo benefited the NP-supporting rural councils because they had equal representation on these councils, in spite of their relatively small numbers in relation to the numbers of people who elected them.

The High Court decision effectively swings the balance of power in the rural areas to farm workers.

ops a bite...

Gore flips for braai safety
FORMER MEC of Local Government Peter Marais, has slammed a Cape High Court judgment ordering the province to reconstitute seven rural district councils on the basis of proportional representation.

Speaking from Sydney, Australia, Marais, now MEC for Health, accused the ANC of running to the courts whenever it was unhappy with a National Party decision.

He said he was shocked and disappointed at the judge’s ruling and believed there was “a serious flaw in our justice system.”

The rural district councils comprise members of rural and town councils elected on a 50-50 basis.

The court found the councils had not been “properly elected” on the basis of proportional representation required by the Local Government Second Amendment Act no 97 of 1996. It ruled in favour of a central government model, which works to the advantage of the ANC. Marais’s model is seen as favouring the NP.

“Last year three High Court judges ruled in my favour in the Worcester and Robertson cases,” Marais said.

“The court found the model I used was fair and just and that it was within my powers.”

Marcas accused the ANC of circumventing the court order, and getting the Local Government Act amended to make him change his model.

The Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development, Valli Moosa, had sought the help of the High Court to make him restructure his model.

“This means that every time the ANC is unhappy about something, it can amend legislation.”

Marais said he had implemented his model after widespread consultation.

The MEC for Local Government, Patrick McKenzie, would have to decide whether to appeal against the court order.

“This judgment will have serious implications for decisions taken by the councils in the past year and for their budgets,” said Marais.

After the court ruling, Moosa said, “It was Marais’s stubbornness that compelled me to approach the courts.”
Dying CBD needs a kiss of life - expert

Waterfront-style team needed

SHARKEY ISAAC
STAFF REPORTER

Congested, dirty streets ruled by "parking terrorists" and gangs of street kids, unmaintained public space, faulty traffic lights, broken signage, scruffy buildings...

This is the bleak picture of a dying Cape Town business district painted by a property expert who has appealed for the proper management of the city centre to stop the flight of commerce and capital.

Theodore Yach, commercial property director of a leading property company, told the economic development and property committee of the Cape Town municipality yesterday that the CBD was in an unhealthy "Catch 22 situation.

Office tenants were clamouring for more parking and municipal planners were increasingly restricting private vehicle access to the city to force people to use public transport.

He said the city had no perceptual management and this was one of the "negatives" for the promotion of commerce and tourism.

On the positive side, the CBD was central and had entertainment, excellent views, good shopping; proximity to the sea and mountain, atmosphere, national monuments and character.

He recommended the creation of a joint council-stakeholder task team and a non-profit management company like that which ran the Waterfront.

Committee chairman Hamief Théker said the establishment of a CBD management similar to that at the Waterfront was out of the question in terms of the constitution. But the committee noted Mr Yach's suggestions and asked him to approach the city manager with his advice.

Councillor Belinda Walker of the Democratic Party said that while she supported most of Mr Yach's suggestions and perceptions, the DP had mooted several plans to improve the situation and make the CBD safer.

She claimed city planners were putting the "cart before the horse" in limiting parking to force people to use public transport. The public transport system left much to be desired - and now Metrorail was proposing to reduce security on trains. Bus and minibus taxi services also had their problems, Ms Walker said.
Tom Good leader will take right road

Action line with him's business and jet hockey

Presentation which met with a modulated and dined soup. The form a very

Polish town has opportunity to find the middle so the capital of

(43) 35-7 3/18
INVESTIGATIONS into alleged corruption, theft and fraud by City of Cape Town officials will help clean up local government, Metro Editor CLAUDIA CAVANAGH reports.

The City of Cape Town has drawn the battle lines in its war against a time-honoured culture of corruption, irregular conduct, poor performance, bad management and the theft of public money and assets.

An investigation into the council's civic amenities branch has already led to the immediate suspension of two senior officials. The involvement of a senior manager in the "numerous scams and irregularities involving council resources" is also being examined. These include ticket scams at major concerts and sports events and the use of council employees doing paid overtime to clean up stadiums after events. Organisers are billed for the work but the money doesn't reach council coffers.

At present, the council is also investigating:
- Claims that National Party councillor Louisa Jansen took money from a homeless resident as an "advance payment" for trying to secure him a house. If this is true, the councillor may have violated the code of conduct and committed fraud. Although the Cape Times was unable to contact Jansen, NP leader Clive Justus said he would look into the matter.

"But in the case of (Ouborne) Adams and (Mogamat) Sampson (two councillors who face being removed from their posts after allegedly breaching the code of conduct), we reiterate our commitment to clean government. All councillors are bound by the same code of ethics and we will ensure that all adhere to it strictly," he said.

"Irregularities will not be allowed to continue. But first, every issue must be investigated.

- The fact that the city built show houses, without plans, on private land in Tambo Square. It appears one of the homes is owned by ANC councillor Cynthia Mzamane and her husband. She or her family appear to be living in this house. At worst, the apparently innocent item on this month's housing committee agenda points to corruption in the highly emotive area of housing allocation - at best, a scenario of confusion involving public funds.

- The matter is further complicated by the fact that the councillor serves on the council's planning committee. City Manager Andrew Boraime has initiated an investigation.

Contacted yesterday, Mzamane declined to comment.

Speaking to the Cape Times yesterday, Boraime said council electricity department staff members had already been prosecuted for irregularities.

"One incident has been taken to the Labour Court as a test case," he said.

When simmering political differences between opposing Crossroads factions erupted into pitched battles this year, a variety of allegations were made.

An independent inquiry headed by veteran human rights lawyer Eesa Moosa was commissioned by Boraime.

Depoutche Elese, one of two ANC councillors representing the area on the Cape Town City Council, survived being shot at in April, but was then accused of nepotism and mismanaging funds by Women's Power - a rival political group in the area.

Women's Power, in turn, has been accused of trying to burn down political rivals' houses and staged a prolonged sit-in at Ikapo council offices early in the year. Hearings in this investigation are under way.

And when two Cape Town City councillors allegedly contravened the code of conduct by interfering in a legal council eviction in Manenberg in February, protracted debate led to an application to the High Court for their expulsion from the council.

The incident, involving the NP's Adams and the ANC's Sampson, led to gang-related death threats being issued to Director of Housing Bally Cobbett, who subsequently left the country Cobbett has since returned.

"The message we're giving is loud and clear. We are determined to stamp out corruption, to hold both councillors and officials accountable for the decisions they take," said deputy executive committee chairperson Saleem Mowzer yesterday.

"Anyone against clean government should leave right now because we will systematically root out all corruption. The council is expending ratepayers' resources while the poorest of the poor sit without houses.

"The council has never had a performance management mechanism in place, so traditionally, employees have had jobs for life without having to account for their actions or for when things go wrong. I must compliment the trade unions for successfully negotiating such Rolls Royce benefits for their members," he said.

But all this is set to change with the setting up of a multi-party corporate management team which will negotiate with trade unions on things like conditions of service, the redeployment of staff and performance management.

"New employment contracts for staff may even be negotiated," said Mowzer.

Director for Protection Services Alan Dolby said the council was embarking on a major theft-and-loss awareness campaign.

Theft costs the city at least R3.7m a year. And this figure includes only those items recorded in an inventory or register.

"The wastage and shrinkage of material is difficult to account for," Dolby said.

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Battle joined on Cape megacity

Clive Sawyer
Political Correspondent

The battle has begun in Parliament over whether Cape Town and the other five municipalities of the Western Cape metro area should remain independent, or all merge into a single megacity.

The megacity concept, backed by the African National Congress, but opposed by smaller parties that fear they will lose control over the few local government structures they now administer, is set out in the Municipal Structures Bill.

At hearings in Parliament yesterday, the Cape Metropolitan Council and the Western Cape Local Government Association claimed the bill was unconstitutional.

The claim was made by Jeremy Gauntlett SC in evidence to the constitutional affairs committee on behalf of the two bodies, which also argue that the bill gives too much power to central and provincial government to decide on local government models.

The bill presents fundamental, logical and constitutional problems, he said. The constitution bound Parliament to providing criteria for the size of municipal areas, but the bill did not.

CMC executive committee chairman Pierre Uys said the single-city option was not the right way forward for the Cape metropolitan area.

He questioned the code of conduct for councillors provided for in the bill, which he said duplicated earlier legislation and which failed, among other things, to take account of the new executive role for mayors proposed in the bill.

The CMC was worried that central government would rush the legislation through Parliament before the end of this year’s session, without full consideration being given to more viable options such as the integrated two-tier model advocated by the councils.
Court battle looms over Nicol salary

Impasse remains

STAFF REPORTER

The row over whether the Cape Town municipality should continue paying the R34,000 a month salary of former town clerk Keith Nicol is likely to be settled in the Cape Town High Court.

No date has been set for the court battle but the council's deputy executive committee chairman, Saleem Mowzer, said the council found it "completely unacceptable" that it was expected to continue paying the salary of an official who no longer worked there.

Mr Nicol lives in Constantia but does not work.

The impasse over the salary began in April last year when the council appointed a new chief executive officer. Mr Mowzer said that in terms of the local government proclamation, which deals with the appointment and early retirement of chief executive officers and heads of departments, the council had followed all the correct procedures in dealing with Mr Nicol's case.

"With the restructuring of the the council, the job of chief executive officer was advertised and several people, including Mr Nicol, applied for the position. It is a known fact that Andrew Boraine was appointed.

"In trying to come to an amicable agreement with Mr Nicol, the council offered him a package of almost R500,000. He rejected this and instead put in a counter-offer totalling several millions of rands."

The previous minister, Peter Marais, appointed a commission to investigate the dispute. At the beginning of the year it sent its recommendations to the department, which in turn told the council to continue paying Mr Nicol until he reaches retirement age of 65.
NP included a council where half the representation went to a municipality with a population of 56,000 people and the other half to a municipality with a population of 50,000. The High Court found that all decisions of the council had been illegal resulting in a crisis of huge proportions.

NP ruling

Countless decisions invalid as taxpayers foot the bill for 'imbalances'
Lifetime salary for axed

R34 000 a month for staying at home

THE LIFE of ex-Cape Town City Hall clerical worker Keith Nicoll should be paid his full salary, R34 000 a month, until the court case is over, says local government minister Patricia Mabandla.

"If the court case underway in the Western Cape High Court is successful, we will pay him his full salary," Mabandla said yesterday.

Mabandla was referring to a court case involving the former City Hall clerk who was dismissed last year.

"We are not prepared to pay money that is not due to him. It is simply unacceptable to make a decision that is not paid to the amount of R34 000 a month. Until the court case is resolved, he will still receive his full salary."

The court case is between Nicoll, who is a Cape Town resident, and the city.

Nicoll was dismissed in April last year after an investigation into allegations of misconduct.

"We are not prepared to pay money that is not due to him. It is simply unacceptable to make a decision that is not paid to the amount of R34 000 a month. Until the court case is resolved, he will still receive his full salary."
City council to get 7.6% pay hike
Council ups its pay 7.6% and seeks perks.

CAPE TOWN councillors are to receive a pay increase of 7.6 percent — at a cost to the city of an extra R4 million a year — and are pressing for a transport allowance.

The increase, which councillors voted for last week, has been approved by the cabinet and is the maximum allowed by government.

As it has not been provided for in the budget, a source of funding is to be found by the council's corporate service.

The mayor of Cape Town, Theresia Solomon, and the head of the executive committee, Nomandla Mfeketo, are each to receive R130 734 — up by R12 000 — a year.

The councillors also want to be paid transport allowances in line with those paid to other Western Cape councils — a move that could almost double the city's bill.

However, Cape Town city manager Andrew Boraine says councillors' allowances are intended to cover their transport expenses.

For this reason, granting councillors a special transport allowance could be deemed unauthorised expenditure.

The matter has been referred to the council's finance committee for further consideration.

Other arrangements to assist councillors — such as a car pool — are also being considered.

The R1 million a year paid towards councillors' pensions is also to be increased.

A scheme allowing councillors to buy back pensionable service is already in place.

However, the maximum period that they are permitted to buy back has been extended from six months to two years.

This decision could also have financial implications for ratepayers and residents.

If each member of the council were to buy back pension time, this could cost the city an extra R2.4 million a year.
Now it's Cape Town Ltd

Private company to wipe out crime and grime

WHAT PUBLIC-PRIVATE ADMINISTRATION WILL MEAN

- A top-up levy in addition to rates to be paid by businesses - but in return there will be a
  - A flat-rate drive to make the city business-friendly
  - An increase in demand for office space in the city centre

CAROL CAMPBELL
Secon Wern

The Cape Town municipality and business leaders are in talks to set up a
private company to run the city's business areas - which would mean big
improvements in such services as
- cleaning and crime prevention.

Their dream is for Cape Town to remain
a bustling centre, but with clean, safe streets
full of foreign tourists buying local goods
with pounds and dollars.

City centre firms will be asked to pay a
- "top-up" levy to improve municipal ser-
  vices, an amount which has yet to be
negotiated. A by-law is being considered to
enable the new company to collect the money.

At the helm of the company will be a chief
executive officer - a Ms or Mr Cape Town
who will co-manage business districts with
the council.

Cape Town city manager Andrew
Boraine confirmed that within two months,
an "interim" structure would be set up to
make this partnership between the city
council and city businesses a reality.

It may take a year or so to set things
to make this partnership between the city
council and city businesses a reality.

Mr Boraine said consultation with all
parties involved would come next.

Inner-city business leaders have promised they will provide expertise to
the council to other areas such as
the city's business area based on what we can
afford.

Although Cape Town is still South
Africa's premier tourist destination, the
inner city is plagued by crime and grime.

Municipal funds are so stretched that the
council cannot afford to throw money at the
problem.

The move by business to get involved in
the running of the city is regarded as an
investment which could reap huge returns,
especially with an increase in tourism.

Mr Boraine said consultation with all
parties involved would come next.

The council has promised they will provide expertise to
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Death-bed letter implicates Kriel in R50-m bribe

By Roger Friedman

A dying man wrote a letter alleging that former Western Cape premier Hermus Kriel was offered a R50-million bribe to ensure that the Cape Metropole casino licence was awarded to a subsidiary of Sun International. Kriel’s lawyer laughed when he heard his client stood accused by a dead man, but the Office for Serious Economic Offences (OSEO) has confirmed that it is scrutinising the claims contained in the letter written by the terminally ill David Price.

Price, describing himself in the letter dated June 14 as an “ex-bookmaker and professional casino gambler”, died on July 2. He had instructed an associate to release the letter to the OSEO, members of the media, government departments and political leaders after his death.

“By the time this letter reaches you I will be dead. My name is David Price, ex-bookmaker and professional gambler. I have always been an honourable gambling man living by a code of ethics which is fair play. I have instructed an associate to release this letter after my death as I did not wish to be questioned and labelled a tell-tale in the last days of my life. I am dying of an incurable disease I believe that the following disclosures I am about to make are in the interest of justice,” he wrote.

According to Price, two men, whose names lawyers recommended we did not publish, concluded a deal between themselves and Sun International for the purchase of Goodwood Showgrounds.

“A package deal of R100-million was offered to Sun International, which included the delivery of a casino licence for the Cape Metropole.”

The letter continued that the property was transferred for R46.5-million. “The other R50-million will be paid to the Ex-Premier Hermus Kriel for making sure that SunWest will be awarded the Cape Metropole licence.”

Price wrote that Kriel insisted on the appointment of a certain member of the Western Cape Gambling Board, to “ensure” SunWest was awarded the licence.

Kriel’s lawyer, Jeff Malherbe, said he could not comment on the letter as he had not seen it. A close associate of Kriel’s told The Star that Kriel was waiting for the OSEO to complete its investigation. Thereafter, Kriel would sue ANC Western Cape leader Ebrahim Rasool for bringing the original allegation - involving a R1-million bribe - to public notice.

OSEO assistant director Tommy Prins said he was personally involved in conducting a preparatory investigation into matters arising from the casino licensing process.

“Our first source was not the letter from Price,” he said. “In view of the seriousness of the allegation, we decided to institute a preparatory investigation.”

Some of Price’s former gambling associates this week expressed surprise that he would have penned such a letter. They described him as a “compulsive” and “addicted” casino gambler.

According to deeds office records, the Goodwood Showgrounds site was transferred in two pieces from the Western Province Agricultural Society to H Investments No 55 Pty Ltd in August 1994 and April 1995 for a total of R46.58-million. H Investments No 55 Pty Ltd subsequently changed its name to SunWest.

► Sun West’s statement...
Kriel to sue for R15m over bribe allegations

ROGER FRIEDMAN

FORMER Western Cape premier and apartheid-era police minister Hemus Kriel has instructed his lawyer to sue the Cape Times, Western Cape ANC leader Ibrahim Rasool and the ANC for R5 million each, for defamation.

The proposed legal suit relates to allegations of bribery and corruption in the run-up to the awarding of a single, lucrative casino licence for the Cape Metropole. The allegations are presently the subject of a preparatory investigation by the Office for Serious Economic Offences.

Lawyer Jeff Malherbe confirmed last night he had received instructions from Kriel to issue summons "in view of the continual spreading of defamatory reports against him."

Allegations that Kriel was under suspicion of accepting a R1m bribe to influence the casino licence process surfaced publicly at a press conference on July 23 called by the ANC and addressed by Rasool. Rasool called for a full investigation into the allegation.

Then, yesterday, the Cape Times published a letter alleging that Kriel had been offered a R50m bribe to ensure that the Cape Metropole casino licence was awarded to Sun West, a subsidiary of Sun International.

The letter was written by the dying David Price—a self-described bookmaker and professional casino gambler—who instructed that it only be released after his death. He died on July 2.

Sun West dismissed Price’s allegations as a pack of lies aimed to discredit its casino licence bid.

Malherbe said last night he could not comment on Price’s letter because the matter had become sub judice the moment he received instructions to sue.

Rasool and the ANC are already being sued for R1 million each by Western Cape director-general Neil Barnard over Rasool’s handling of the July 23 press conference.

Responding to Kriel’s proposed legal suit, the Cape Times Editor Ryland Fisher said it was Kriel’s "democratic right to take whatever legal action he wants to take."

Fisher said: "We stand by the stories we have published so far. We have published these stories as we believe they are in the public interest, and not because we are part of any campaign to defame Mr Kriel or anyone else."

Approached for comment, the Western Cape ANC said last night it had not received any official notification from Kriel or his lawyer.

The ANC said: "Mr Kriel has every right to resort to the courts. The ANC Western Cape will defend any action instituted by him. Our initial decision to make public allegations in order that they may be fully investigated was based on fulfilling our mandate as the official opposition in the legislature. This is both a moral and public responsibility we have. It was done in the public interest."

"Earlier this evening, our provincial executive committee reaffirmed its full support for the leadership collective and in particular our provincial chairperson, Ibrahim Rasool. The leadership was also mandated to intensify our campaign to bring to the fore all allegations of corruption so that they may be fully investigated. No one will stop us from playing the role of whistle-blowers."

Heath special unit now probing corruption cases totalling R7-bn

CLIVE SAWTER (263)
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Special Investigating unit head Judge Willem Heath said today the government of the Western Cape was not as clean as it appeared.

Replying to questions after an address to the Cape Town Press Club, Judge Heath said his commission was investigating a couple of cases in the province.

The positive aspect of this was that these had been brought to the attention of the commission by the provincial government itself.

Judge Heath said his unit was probing thousands of cases of alleged corruption involving about R7-billion.

He said it was seldom necessary for the powerful commission to use the special investigating powers conferred on it by law. “People are so sick and tired of corruption and maladministration we find ourselves flooded with information,” he said.

The commission was turned into a national special investigating unit by legislation approved by Parliament in 1995.

In its previous form, it had recovered or saved the country R10-billion, said Judge Heath.

He criticized under-budgeting of the commission, but said he would rather keep the operation economical than impose a moratorium on its operations.

He pointed out that, in what he termed two small cases, the amounts recovered had been equal to the commission’s annual budget.

Detailing some of the cases under investigation, he said that in two provinces the commission was investigating a total of 63,000 cases of abuse of the Government’s housing subsidy scheme. In another case where a province had asked the commission to investigate irregularities involving Government-owned vehicles, it had been found that one vehicle had been “repaired” by five different dealers in one day.

In that province, 372 vehicles had been recovered with a book value of R33-million.

In another province where tender regulations had not been followed, the commission had prevented the incident leading to mis-spending of R126-million. And in a case in a province which Judge Heath declined to name, a premier had been unaware that R23-million was missing from his budget.

Judge Heath paid tribute to the press, saying the publicity given to the work and achievements of his commission had helped it in its role in assuring clean government.
Angloisomme Galeh Muslim Support

Le soutien politique est devenu un point chaud de la vie politique et sociale. La situation actuelle démontre la force du mouvement politique angloisomme dans le monde musulman. Les leaders politiques et religieux continuent de travailler ensemble pour promouvoir la paix et le dialogue interculturel.

Cependant, il est important de noter que la situation est dynamique et changeante. Les perspectives politiques et sociales sont influencées par de nombreux facteurs, y compris les tensions internes et les pressions externes.

Il est donc essentiel de rester informé et de soutenir activement ces efforts de paix et de comprésion.

Philanthropie

En fin de compte, le soutien politique est une expression de solidarité et de responsabilité envers la communauté musulmane. C'est la contribution active à la recherche de solutions pacifiques et respectueuses de la diversité culturelle.
Tygerberg’s R100-m boost

The Development Bank of South Africa has lent Tygerberg Municipality R100-million.

The huge cash injection will help the municipality provide much-needed facilities and urban infrastructure.

Johan de Villiers Botha, the bank’s executive manager, and Gys Hofmeyr, municipal corporate services director, signed the loan agreement.

Mr Hofmeyr said the loan was intended for development to improve socio-economic opportunities in the Tygerberg area.

It would be used to lay on water and provide sanitation, electricity, roads, stormwater drainage and other facilities in areas where it was needed most.

The programme was supported by the Western Cape government and would be implemented in line with the objectives of the Reconstruction and Development Programme, said Mr Hofmeyr.

The boost comes on the heels of the official opening of a 2.5km double highway in Bolhar, part of a R9.1-million upgrading project, by Tygerberg Deputy Mayor Olivier Ngubelani and Cape Metropolitan Council Mayor William Bantom.

The project was funded by the metropolitan council from the priority Olympic development projects budget of R122-million.
ANC’s Seymourousts Nats from Grassy Park

The African National Congress has won a municipal by-election in the South Peninsula, taking the seat from the National Party.

But general apathy saw the voter turnout for the day particularly low, with a poll of only 18.7% for ward S16 in the Grassy Park/Lotus River area.

ANC candidate Vernon Seymour, a University of the Western Cape researcher, took the seat with 657 votes to National Party candidate Raphael Koopman, a minister of religion, who drew 444 votes. Of the other two parties, the United Democratic Front’s Essack Allie got 186 votes, while the African Christian Democratic Party’s Mannie Nudoo drew only 56 votes.

ANC southern suburbs secretary Khalil Munone said he believed his party's victory was due to the NP-controlled South Peninsula municipality's rates rise and also to the broader issue of crime in the Western Cape.

He said crime in the Grassy Park area was a particular problem.

The previous ward councillor was controversial NP councillor Raj Pathak, who was twice convicted of fraud and theft - but he hung on to his seat pending an appeal. He was finally ousted for failing to pay his municipal accounts.

The last by-election in the South Peninsula, in Bergvliet/Meadowridge, was taken by the DP, which did not put up a candidate for this by-election. This result gives the ANC its fifth seat on the NP-dominated council.

Western Cape ANC spokesperson Cameron Dugmore described the victory as a watershed result in the Western Province.
The African National Congress has overtaken the National Party in the Western Cape to become the party with the most popular support, says an independent opinion poll by a leading research company.

Although the margin by which the ANC leads is narrow, at 31,6% to the NP's 30,1%, the provincial ANC leadership is confident the trend will continue.

Its optimism is reinforced by three victories in local government by-elections in the past month, including one where the ANC took a seat from the Nats in the Cape Town metropolitan area, and five previous election victories where the ANC held four seats and took one from the NP.

The Cape Argus today exclusively reveals the province-by-province breakdown of party political support according to a Marikor survey conducted in July.

In the Western Cape, the ANC has 31,6%, the NP 30,1%, the Democratic Party 14,5%, the United Democratic Movement 5,2% and the Freedom Front 0,5%.

Provincial ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool said the survey confirmed the trend shown in the five consecutive by-election victories of the party.

It also confirmed the decline in white support for the NP and that the Nats' coloured support was increasingly apathetic and disillusioned with the party's performance.

The Pan Africanist Congress, which has no seats in the provincial legislature, polled 0,8% support.

Significant numbers of those polled refused to say or did not know how they would vote (7,8%), while 7,3% said they would not vote.

Although the ANC is ahead on points, this does not necessarily mean it would form the provincial government should the trend continue.

Among the poll results, the NP and DP could form a coalition cabinet by putting their votes together to add up to 44,6% against the ANC's 31,6%.

The DP's federal council and its Western Cape congress have backed a policy of forming coalitions where necessary after next year's election to keep the ANC out of provincial government.

At the same time, senior DP insiders have indicated the party would not do a deal with a strict set of principles and conditions being laid down.

Asked to comment on a possible NP-DP deal, Mr Rasool said the moral challenge to the DP was whether it should go into an all-white alliance with the party of apartheid or support transformation and change in alliance with the ANC.

However, the ANC would not be content with the 31,6% majority and would work hard to win an overall minority in its own right, he said.

Analysis of the Western Cape results by the ANC election office noted that support for the NP has dropped by two percentage points since March, while support for the DP has risen four points.

The ANC is also likely to be encouraged by Marikor's figures of national support for parties by race, which shows the ANC to have 32% of coloured support, although this is still behind the NP, with 40,8%.

The Markor poll also showed the ANC led, even in KwaZulu Natal, where it has the majority, and in the Northern Cape, where the ANC is precarious.

How they line up in W Cape

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Support</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANC</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>NP</td>
<td>30.1%</td>
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<td>DP</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
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Poll puts cat among the pigeons, page 10
Morkel names Markovitz
Western Cape finance MEC

CAPE TOWN — Former city councillor and millionaire businessman Leon Markovitz has been brought into the Western Cape provincial cabinet as finance MEC in a surprise move by premier Gerald Morkel, who was unanimously elected provincial leader of the National Party (NP) at its provincial congress yesterday.

Former chairman of the Helderberg metropolitan council Freda Adams will become minister without portfolio in Morkel's office responsible for transformation, gender and youth affairs.

Health and welfare MEC Peter Marais, Morkel's only possible rival for the uncontested position of provincial party leader, gave him a public show of support by nominating him for the position and in turn got the most votes in elections for the three vice-chairmen.

The other two were Marika Badenhorst and Frink van Deventer, the director of elections. Local government and gambling MEC Patrick MacKenzie lost the race.

Commenting on his appointment, Markovitz said the position involved more allocation than fundraising, which provincial governments were precluded from doing. He was "deeply impressed" by Morkel's vision for the Western Cape.

Morkel also announced the 12 members of his reshuffled cabinet which followed the reduction in the number of provincial departments.

MEC Lampie Fick lost his finance portfolio, kept agriculture and gained property asset management, which Morkel identified as the two cash-generating portfolios.

Kobus Meiring was shifted to environment, sport and recreation, Coal Herandien retained housing, Democratic Party (DP) provincial leader Henze Bester kept business and tourism, Nick Koornhof kept education and Mark Wiley community safety.

The African Christian Democratic Party's Michael Louis lost property asset management and was given development planning. Piet Meyer will be transport and public works. MEC Forester welfare MEC Arnold de Jager lost his portfolio in order to become provincial representative on the National Council of Provinces.

Today the provincial congress will focus on formulating strategies for the forthcoming elections which NP leaders said yesterday the party was determined to win.

Marais noted that the party would come under intense attack by the DP and the United Democratic Movement.
Morkel's 'lean' cabinet sports two new faces

CHRIS BATEMAN

A FORMER Cape Town mayor, Leon Markowitz and a veteran-school principal, Freda Adams, were yesterday appointed to Western Cape Premier Gerald Morkel's new "lean-looking" provincial cabinet.

Markowitz, who was mayor of Cape Town from 1985 to 1987 and leader of the National Party in the City Council, resigned as a city councillor in May to "cultivate roses at the bottom of my garden," but was approached by Morkel to take the provincial finance portfolio three weeks ago.

Freda Adams, a teacher for 35 years at the Tonko Bosman Primary School in Somerset West, was elected chairperson of the Helderberg executive council last week after rising rapidly through that council's ranks.

GENDER AFFAIRS: Freda Adams

LEON MARKOWITZ: Finance portfolio

She will instead become MEC for Transformation, Gender Affairs and Youth in Morkel's office — becoming only the second woman to serve in the New National Party-led provincial cabinet.

Adams, who sat on the national bargaining council, Helderberg's Labour Forum and the South African Local Government Association, was chairperson of Restructuring and Staff in the Helderberg Council.

She spent the Past 15 years as a principal of Tonko Bosman Primary, resigning in June before returning as an acting principal to "help out with the teaching crisis."

Morkel also informed his party congress yesterday that the environment portfolio had been shifted from Community Safety MEC Mark Wiley back to former incumbent Kobus Meiring.

Meiring adds sport and recreation to his existing culture portfolio.


Louis remains in the executive with the consolation prize of development planning, as does the DP's Henne Bester who retains his business promotion and tourism portfolios.

Wiley's loss of the "green" portfolio may prove controversial, as he was beginning to be seen as the most progressive local MEC in this field since the federal system of government began.

The Education portfolio remains with skilful negotiator and diplomat, Nick Koornhof, as does Housing with Cecil Herandien.

Morkel said he had chosen "capable people and astute politicians." He revealed that he wanted to develop a "disability desk" for addition to Adams' new duties in his office.

Tygerberg politician Frans van Deventer was elected as a new deputy chairperson of the NP in the province.

*See Page 3*
opposition.

Council cracking up

Offcial says the odds are

against a decent service

Tom Hood

METRO

STC(mm)11/10/98
Cape Town to move closer to integration

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — Institutional change aimed at creating a single, integrated city would accelerate next year.

This would include new ways of delivering services, a new affirmative action policy and the introduction of performance assessments, a senior city manager said yesterday.

Philip van Ryneveld, the city's executive director of corporate finance, said Cape Town was still marked by disparities of service delivery and infrastructure provision between historically black, white and coloured areas.

"We know that in some areas service delivery is sub-standard and infrastructure has been severely neglected, while in other areas service delivery is of a relatively high standard," he said.

Transformation

The city needed to re-examine the distribution of staff, functions and finance.

"We also need to provide new kinds of services flexibility is needed among employees in terms of what jobs they do, when they do them and where they do them," Van Ryneveld said.

He said staff cuts were "not high" on the city's agenda — "over the last year we have reduced staff numbers by over 10% to about 11 000".

This was achieved through restructuring of the pension fund to a defined contribution fund, and not through retrenchments or incentives to leave, Van Ryneveld said.

Preliminary discussions with trade unions about the city's plans to speed up transformation had already begun.

Early in the new year unions would be presented with a formal document outlining the council's proposals, Van Ryneveld said.

Many of the details of the planned changes would only be finalised in negotiation. The city took a decision earlier this year that transformation would be driven from within its organisational structure as opposed to relying solely on outside change managers.

About 50 project managers from a cross-section of the organisation were trained in project management.

Priority projects were in the pipeline, and in some cases had already been initiated, in four broad areas: business improvement, affirmative action and representation, performance management and workplace re-organisation.

"It was also recognised that the people in the organisation needed to be brought on board and ownership developed for transformation to be successful," Van Ryneveld said.

A priority change management project was subsequently developed.

The city, as employer, had also identified the need for the "urgent development" of:

- More "customer-focused" business processes and systems "Outsourcing" could also gain momentum next year.

"The financial challenges facing Cape Town will force us to review what services are provided and how we should provide them in order to meet our strategic priorities," Van Ryneveld said.

- A performance assessment mechanism for both staff and organisational units.
- A new affirmative action policy that, while addressing racial and cultural tensions, "encourages diversity and meets the legislative requirements".
- A single set of conditions of service for all employees in order to improve operations and integrate the administration.
- Because of the local government reorganisation in Cape Town, five sets of conditions of service exist.
- New organisational structures which will allow for "ongoing improvements" in the city's performance, particularly service delivery, and, mechanisms to promote the ownership of the transformation programme by the employees.
PS - LOCAL AUTHORITIES - W. CAPE
1999
Cape Metro Council set to fight megalcity act in court
Megacity system: ‘too big, too costly’

A megacity system of government in greater Cape Town would cost far more to run than do existing local authorities.

This is the view of Pierre Uys, leader of the Cape Metropolitan Council executive committee.

A CMC delegation, including Mr Uys, visited megacities Toronto and New York last month on a fact-finding mission.

This was part of the CMC’s research into whether a megacity system of government was suitable for Cape Town.

Greater Cape Town is divided into six municipalities, which deliver services at local level, and the CMC, which has an umbrella function. A megacity system would mean the city, from Helderberg to the South Peninsula via Tygerberg, would be governed by a single local authority.

Mr Uys said his council was compiling a report on the megacity system to be handed to the Metropolitan Co-ordinating Forum.

The forum is made up of the six local authorities and the CMC. It meets once a month to discuss topics of mutual interest.

Mr Uys said Toronto councillors had told the Cape Town delegation to do all they could to prevent the implementation of a megacity in Cape Town, because it caused major problems in areas such as service delivery.

He said that, while Toronto was made to set up a megacity in terms of provincial legislation, the South African enabling legislation was national.

But the Toronto council had no party politics or caucuses.

Mr Uys said that in Toronto councillors were more interested in serving their communities than their political parties. He said the Toronto council met weekly, unlike the councils in Cape Town.

And meetings often continued the following day.

Mr Uys said that although there were positive factors about megacities, among the negative issues were that the city management was too big — which affected service deliveries and was not cost-effective.

The report being prepared by the CMC is likely to say a megacity will crush local democracy.

It will also say megacities of over a million people have been shown around the world to cost between 40% and 50% more than the two-tier system. This would be bad news for ratepayers.

Responding to whether he was in favour of a megacity covering just the Cape Town and Tygerberg areas, Mr Uys said even this council would be too big, because of the size of the population in the area — considerably more than a million people.

Last week President Mandela signed the Municipal Structures Bill into law.

And the CMC is waiting for a report from the central Government about implementing it. The council has appointed an advocate to scrutinise the new act to see whether it is constitutional. Court action has not been ruled out.
The ANCS campaign is facing intensified terrorism, intolerance and intimidation. While Linda Ensor
does not address the campaign, the context of the article suggests it is a significant concern. The
title indicates a focus on Muslim votes in the election in Cape Town.
CWC to challenge Government over bill

EW Municipal Law heading for court

Inside Story
Apartfield came to tour us in the morning of Stirling
CAPE ARGUS ISSU: Warts and all, we are
A tearful princess can tell us about

Asparagus River Road curves into the bend at the Constantia Reformatory, where the undulating pine forest meets the raised landscape of the vineyards begins, there is an inconspicuous bridge that bears the name of the Prinskasteel River.

It’s not much of a river at all.

But what’s interesting about it is its story.

There was a time, legend has it, that the Elephant’s Eye cave high above the pine plantations of Tokai was a retreat of a Khoekhoe princess.

The cave, in fact, used to be called Prinskasteel.

The princess was reputedly held captive in the cave by Portuguese sailors, and her tears formed the stream which created the river, now called Prinskasteel, and dammed up on the flats to form Princess Vlei.

This princess is an intriguing character, one, more properly, an intriguing fiction.

In her story are the class of a history.

One can picture this matriarch being bullied by a submission or merely ignored, left to watch her mountain and the gradual usurpation of her realm under the steady intrusion of civilisation, and the cultivation and land-ownership that went with it, the precursor to the colonial domination that would last for the next few hundred years.

It’s remarkable that, especially since it’s almost certainly apocryphal, her memory survives.

The phony inclinations of politicians or toadyish officials of the past might well have led to the erasure of this story in favour of a token renaming which, at the time, to them, would have seemed generous, intelligent, rational, historical even.

That’s the trouble with renaming the town.

The ANC’s proposal to the City of Cape Town to find new names for some city streets and squares is understandable.

The natural impulse of any new order is to “reshape” the past to its liking, especially a past filled with the suffering and pain that characterised the apartheid years.

Recognising this, the renaming of the NY—”native yard”—prefixes of township streets is one element of the proposal which it is difficult to find fault with, though it should be up to the residents themselves to decide.

And some way should be found, symbolically, in the landscape, to remember that that is what they were called.

But expunging irksome names from the record is another thing.

People like J B M Hertzog and Oswald Pirow, founding spirits of white nationalism and the racist ideology that went with it, don’t necessarily deserve to be forgotten, but to be a mistake to forget them, or pretend they were not who they were in their time.

I am inclined to think that Cape Town can never be what it was not.

On the face of it, this appears to be a puzzling, self-contradictory nonsense, an illogical notion.

YES OR NO?

Should the names of places, streets, buildings and bridges that remind us.

Of the past be changed?

Have your say: Fax 498 4793 Write to the Editor at 122 St George’s Mall, Cape Town, 8001. Or e-mail arg@capindependent.co.za

Of course Cape Town can, will—and should—become something other, but it’s being, the place it is, is an accretion of histories in no amount of rationalism can actually change.

Cape Town can only be different in the knowledge of what it was, of knowing itself.

The layered history of the place is the key to its integrity, and the flawed prudence of wishing we had not been what we were merely raises the prospect of a future of forgetting.

The most challenging demand of a painful history is the need to remember it, and, inevitably, cultivating amnesia is the first step on a helpless return journey.

There are even times that I think that an H F Verwoerd building turned, through democratic elections, to serve the party that represents the greater mass of South Africans is more potent, perhaps honest, symbol of transformation than a building that has quietly assumed the innocent name of 120 Plein Street because, at the time, changing it was such an obvious relief from the oppressive symbolism of the old regime’s monarchical pretence, and the easiest nominal means by which to reflect its defeat.

Perhaps, on reflection, an H F Verwoerd building would be intolerable.

But I still think it’s arguable.

The cost of changing street names will be the focus of much criticism of the ANC’s proposal.

And there is an argument that cosmetic changes of this kind, as many critics will see it, will barely alter the difficult socio-economic reality of the city, and that the money might well be spent to better effect elsewhere.

I don’t necessarily find the economic offensive.

I would argue that there is every reason to spend money on acknowledging the city’s past, but by augmenting the record, not by erasure and denial.

The city would do well, in my book, to use innocuously named roadways such as the N1 or N2 or Eastern Boulevard to honour significant figures from the past, to write them into a public history from which to a greater or lesser extent they have been excluded.

The city might also consider commissioning public sculptures for the purpose, and drawing on elements of unacknowledged history in naming new streets and new buildings.

Among the figures who could provide a provocative counterpoint to the colonial or racist imprints might, for instance, be Harry the Strandloper, who was also known as Harry, or Antuwan noo, chief of the Goringkhakous.

He learned enough English from early contacts with British sailors to act as an interpreter, and was in close contact with Van Riebeeck in the 1660s.

Relations were, predictably, difficult, and Harry was banished for a time to Robben Island.

His niece, Eva, who grew up in

Very Cape Town: Archbishop Desmond Tutu is synonymous with many Cape Town signal events, and should be an obvious choice, says Morris.
Van Riebeeck's household and did her best to intercede on her uncle's behalf. Another possible candidate, as are two other Khoikhoi figures, Coore and Domon. I would have thought Archbishop Desmond Tutu, an outspoken reconciler, and a man synonymous with so many signal events in Cape Town's struggle, would be an obvious choice for public acknowledgement.

Helen Suzman is another, a lone liberal fighter for so many years in the parliament that has given Cape Town fame and infamy.

Eastern Boulevard, perhaps, could fittingly take the name of Philip Kgosana. On March 30, 1969 – just nine days after 68 people had been shot at Sharpeville - Kgosana, a member of the Pan Africanist Congress, led a march of 30,000 people into central Cape Town. This mass of people coming in on the freeway from Langa was a fearful spectacle - shops were closed, and children were fetched home from school.

Troops marched to Parliament to join policemen armed with fixed bayonets. Wearing shorts and a jacket, the 21-year-old Kgosana seemed implausibly young for the role.

The ironic consequence of his courage was summary detention. In fact, he had made a deal with a senior police officer, Colonel Terry Terblanche, to persuade his followers to return home peacefully in exchange for a meeting with the Minister of Justice that afternoon.

The deal was overridden by then Minister of Police Frans Erasmus, who had Kgosana detained.

He was eventually charged with incitement, but later skipped the country while on bail.

An unexpected sequel came in 1986, at the death of Terblanche.

A statement in his will revealed his anguish at the betrayal of Kgosana.

"I felt like a traitor," he wrote. "It stumped me as breaking my promise."

The story illustrates the pitfalls of tampering with the record.

The memory of Kgosana, and the scores of other deserving figures from the past, would not be well served by a selective cleansing of the record, because the whole record - including instances when Terblanche felt about his actions - is part and parcel of their history, too.

It would be a pity if those opposing name-changes were automatically taken as sympathisers of past injustices, or of opponents of the beguiling idea of "transformation."

I say this not least because all of us, our families and forebears, are in one way or another, responsible for our history.

Changing the way we reflect that history does not make it any less true.

There is a danger, in having the power to alter the record, of being tempted by the tact deception that, today, we are wise, better and less prone to political greed or error than those whose names we seek to erase, or than the society that impelled them and gave them their Imperator to act as they did.

Fear that would be a false and spurious vanity.

It would be - and would deserve being - derided by future generations who, no doubt, will look back at these times with sagacious disdain, wondering to themselves how it is we lacked their superior insight.

Writing last week in the local press, artist and commentator Stanley Hermans argued that street names and monuments form a record that tells the story "as it is."

He warns that we "ought to be very careful when we intervene in that record... not least because "the way in which we intervene, itself part of this ongoing record, tells its own story of who we are and how we live."

"It may be cathartic in the short term simply to change a name. It could be as deceptive as boring a witch simply to remove offensive and painful resonances of a past that has indeed caused a great many to suffer."

Hermans asks, "Does it really change who we are and does it offer anything other than a temporary panacea for pain that should quite rightly run deep in all of us, since we are all responsible for that pain?"

The ANC's commitment to consult and hear the views of others contrasts with the altogether more imperious approach of their predecessors.

It might well be that the majority of Cape Town's people will decide that "cleansing" the historical record is desirable, and that it will be cathartic.

The risk is that the catharsis in those things is too often short-lived, while the amnesia endures.
South Peninsula

service record slated

Ratepayers treated as if they are nuisance

PETER GOOSEN
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The South Peninsula Municipality has been slammed by an official probe into its delivery of services and its treatment of ratepayers.

This follows a public inquiry by attorney John van Niekerk of Silberbauer, appointed by the council, and further internal and external investigations into the south's building survey and land use development directorates are now expected.

The South Peninsula’s executive committee released Mr Van Niekerk’s report yesterday, and said matters needing attention would be investigated urgently.

Mr Van Niekerk said he had great sympathy for officials who appeared to have been dumped into a fledgling local authority which at first had no proper infrastructure and apparently had been established without appropriate planning.

“It is unthinkable that a large directorate such as building survey should rely on municipal forestry trucks to transport files, or that proper provision had not been made to accommodate them.

“It is also unthinkable that in this modern age it should have had to wait for six weeks for the cabling for its computer to be completed.

“Similarly, it must have been a nightmare of horrendous proportions to have attempted to operate and run this directorate initially with one cellphone shared by about 45 officials,” said Mr Van Niekerk.

“Nonetheless, no matter what strains and stresses have been and, in fact, still are being endured by its officials there can be no excuse for treating ratepayers as if they are a nuisance,” he added.

The executive director of urban and environmental services, Chris Sullivan, told the inquiry: “If we have a look at the metropolitan restructuring forum, the entire emphasis was the transition restructuring.

“Very little attention was given to service delivery or the continued maintenance of service delivery.

“There is, in fact, no middle management to speak of, and the result of that has been that the directors, including myself, find that their ability to manage effectively is seriously compromised.”
Cape Town council drops charges, but workers may take court action

Union off the hook in R4m scam

NEWS
Inquiry Hammers South Peninsula Municipality
Equity is too often a byword for equality.

A group of Cape Town City officials, representatives of the local community, and members of various organizations met to discuss the concept of equity and its implications for their city.

The gathering highlighted the need for a more equitable approach to resource allocation, ensuring that all members of the community have access to essential services and opportunities. The officials emphasized the importance of understanding and addressing the historical and systemic barriers that have prevented equal opportunities for all.

The discussion included an exploration of how to measure equity, the role of government in promoting equitable outcomes, and strategies for engaging communities in the planning process. The goal was to foster a shared vision where equity is not just a goal but a living reality in Cape Town City.
ANC GRABS TOP NATS

JOE ARAHES, BLACKMAN NGORO
and CLIVE SAWYER
Star Reporters

The New National Party was today dealt its worst blow yet in the season of defections when three of its heavyweight black members – Western Cape cabinet minister Patrick McKenzie and national MPs David Chuyenene and John Gogotya – defected to the African National Congress.

In a move rich in symbolism, Mr McKenzie and Bukwila Mphula, who earlier this week was prompted by disillusionment to quit the Democratic Party for the ANC, were sworn as members of the National Assembly this afternoon.

The ANC's newest acquisitions from the Nats, all of whom have long been openly critical of the lack of transformation in the New NP, were received with jubilation and embraces at the final meeting of the ANC's national parliamentary caucus this morning.

The ANC says the future of its newest members will, like all other members, depend on the decisions of its deployment committee.

Mr McKenzie, who tonight will address an ANC meeting in Bonteheuwel, spoke with considerable emotion at a news conference about the odyssey that led him to the ANC.

"It has been a long struggle in my mind," and Mr McKenzie, who was MP for Bonteheuwel in the previous parliament and has been variously provincial minister of police, national Minister of Welfare and provincial minister of local government.

He said he had enjoyed his time in the NP, which he had joined nine years ago after being inspired by the reform initiatives of FW de Klerk.

But outright refusal by the Western Cape New NP to form a united opposition front, and its political shift to control by a 'Broederbond' faction, had disillusioned him.

Mr McKenzie, who said he saw himself as left of centre, said he was no longer at home in a party which had retreated into a barrier.

Mr McKenzie said that in joining the ANC, "I have come to plug in where the power is... to be constructive in the new South Africa."

Mr Gogotya, until now a Western Cape member of the National Assembly, said "I have been involved in politics for six years... the ANC is a part of the country's history... I was always welcome in the ANC."
Detentions put key Cape Town municipality in the hands of the ANC

NAT-ATTACK
ANC has control of Tygerberg

Defections from NNP to ANC ‘now unstoppable’

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The African National Congress (ANC) won absolute control of the Tygerberg metropolitan council yesterday after the defection of former New National Party (NNP) councillor Carol McKenzie to the party.

The signing up of two former NNP Cape Town city councillors, representing Mitchell's Plain, was also hailed by the ANC as a sign that this NNP stronghold was vulnerable to attack. The addition of councillors James George and Louisa Jansen increased the ANC's majority on the city council and further council defections are expected later this week.

And in another development, NNP deputy chairman Peter Marais is expected to have discussions with party leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk and Western Cape premier Gerald Morkel today.

Marais, who is understood to be aggrieved that he has not been given greater recognition for being the party's big vote-catcher, would not comment on the content of the talks, nor on who had initiated them. There have been persistent rumours that he is about to cross the floor to the ANC, but he could use the meeting to demand a more high-profile position within the party.

McKenzie's departure from the NNP followed that of her husband, former local government MEC Patrick McKenzie last week.

Her presence gave the ANC 37 votes on the Tygerberg council compared with the NNP's 33, the Democratic Party's two and the African Christian Democratic Party's one.

ANC Western Cape leader Ebrahim Rasool said the floodgates had opened and the stream from the NNP to the ANC is now unstoppable.

NNP Cape Town council spokesman Clive Justus said the defection of George and Jansen was an attempt to evade an investigation into their alleged breach of the party's code of conduct.
Unicity will speak with one voice – Boraine

City Manager Andrew Boraine told the Cape Town Press Club that one of the key benefits of a "unicity" would be that "we would have one name and a single voice, speaking to investors".

The unicity, he said yesterday, would enable the Cape Metropolitan Council, along with the six municipalities to market itself as one entity, under one name.

He said, though, that one of the drawbacks of implementing the one-tier system would be a possible slowing down of existing service delivery.

"What could arise is an inward focus on administration instead of an outward focus on the community and the people we serve."

He added that the unicity would "eliminate the current competition that occurs in the two-tier system."

With the improvement of delivery services in the city being the main focus of his speech, Mr Boraine said that that many of the city's present systems of service delivery were 15 to 20 years outdated by international standards.

"Service delivery is the core business of local government and it is unacceptable that 300,000 families in Cape Town have no access to proper shelter or services," said Mr Boraine.

"The main crisis facing the city is what is happening in the informal settlements," he said.

"The political violence in these settlements and inefficient delivery of services poses the most serious threat to the stability of the city."

He said, "Local boundaries are becoming borders. What we need is an efficient land-release programme for lower-income families."

Mr Boraine also accused local authorities of living beyond their means and said costs had to be reduced in order to increase the efficiency of local government.

"There is no reason to fear the unicity," said Mr Boraine. "This type of restructuring is an opportunity to modernise local government."

With resources already being shifted toward the improvement of cleaning and law enforcement services, the city manager said the next challenge authorities were facing was integration of the city.
Cape probes huge medicine theft ring

Hotline yields string of corruption cases

The Western Cape government is investigating a multi-million-rand scam involving the theft from state depots of medical supplies that are being filtered to criminal syndicates.

The discovery was made after one of a string of tip-offs via a corruption hotline set up in the province in October last year.

This emerged at the two-day summit convened by the Government in Cape Town to try to crack down on corruption, which has cost taxpayers more than R30 billion.

Deon van der Westhuizen, head of the Western Cape's internal audit unit, said 96 potential cases of corruption had been reported on the hotline, and 24 investigations were close to completion.

The unit had handed over 48 cases to police in the past 12 months. Better financial controls were introduced where problems were found.

Mr Van der Westhuizen said the investigation into the theft of medical supplies valued at millions of rands would probably take a year to complete. Some cases had already been referred to the police.

The unit has a staff of 10, but is at present "building capacity".

It was also engaged in a review of 4,500 provincial vehicles to see which officials were abusing them.

Mr Van der Westhuizen said the abuse of state vehicles was probably the most visible form of corruption.

Other cases being investigated by the unit included:

- An amount of R600,000 paid via the central Government to non-governmental organisations which did not have proper financial controls;
- Inadequate accounting of overseas trips by members of the former Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism;
- Cash stolen from hospital ATMs, with amounts ranging from R3,000 to R21,000.

The conference is focusing on interaction between the public and private sectors and how to introduce tougher measures to protect businesses, blacklisted firms involved in fraud and ensure clean tender and procurement procedures.

Western Cape Premier Gerry Morkel said "Corruption in the country has already cost the country R21 billion, which is twice the Western Cape's annual budget.

"Judge Willem Heath personally told me that he was investigating 100,000 cases and only four of those were in the Western Cape."

Among the Heath special investigating unit investigations is a fraud and theft probe at the Cape Ceres Education in Kuils River involving at least R6,000,000.

Another case centred on fraudulent authorisations within the Department of Public Works' public buildings.

Earlier this year, the Western Cape was criticised for not reporting cases to the Heath investigating unit quickly enough.

The unit has access to a special tribunal which enables it to recover state assets from people who have been defrauding the Government.
Proposal: Food in Forst and Eco-Sensitive area

Joint effort on River land

OCT. 2003: MISSOURI. APRIL 1999

8 Neighbors
A WAR of words has been triggered between the City of Cape Town and the Cape Metropolitan Council following the declaration of a dispute with the CMC over the "unfair and inequitable" allocation of funds to poor communities.

The ANC-dominated council voted to declare the dispute with the NNP-led CMC because a R50-million fund meant to upgrade poverty-stricken areas was allocated to projects in a vote-catching exercise.

In a statement yesterday, councillor Pierre Uys, chairperson of the executive committee of the CMC, said: "Firstly, it was agreed by the executive committee of the CMC that each MLC should be allocated approximately R8 million. The five other MLCs accepted this allocation, which I believed to be fair and equitable."

At the heart of the dispute is the CMC's allocation of money for local functions and services to councillors appointed on a "proportionate representation" basis, in the areas where they live. In other words, they are not ward councillors, yet they have been allocated money for services in their residential areas.

Saleem Mowzer, chairperson of the Cape Town exco, said yesterday: "We are arguing that the allocation of the funds should be consistent with the spread of poverty."

He added that according to census statistics, Cape Town and Tygerberg, together have 69% of the total population of the metropolitan area, and an estimated 68% of all those in the metro area who are regarded as living in poverty.

"Yet these two councils together get R16m or one-third of the total funds being allocated. Blouberg, Cystenbosch, Helderberg and South Peninsula with collectively 31% of the total population and 32% of those in the metro area living in poverty get R32m between them, or two-thirds of the total funds allocated," he said.

On another issue, Uys said that in the past financial allocations made by the CMC to the City of Cape Town for special projects identified by their council had not been spent. He alleged that of the R70m allocated for 20 projects, only R38m had been spent.

Mowzer said these projects weren't completed because the plans were approved 10 years ago and did not reflect present realities.

"We did technical assessments and it became clear that we needed to change the scope of the projects. The CMC refused to approve the amendments and we were unable to proceed because the plans were more than 10 years old," Mowzer said.
Millions destined to help Western Cape’s poor are ‘put on hold’

NORMAN JOSEPH
Metro Reporter

The Cape Metropolitan Council called off a meeting with the City of Cape Town to resolve a dispute over a R48-million fund earmarked for upgrading disadvantaged areas.

The metropolitan council yesterday cancelled the meeting scheduled for 4.15pm after getting a letter from the Government’s Department of Finance querying the way in which the money was being allocated.

Pierre Uys, chairman of the metropolitan council’s executive committee, said the council would discuss the issue with the department of finance.

Last week, the African National Congress-controlled city council declared a dispute with the metropolitan council, headed by the New National Party.

The dispute arose because the CMC allocated about R6-million to each of the six local councils, while Cape Town had asked for a larger share on the grounds that it was responsible for more poor people.

But the metropolitan council argued that any adjustment to Cape Town’s share would prejudice the other local councils.

In a letter to the metropolitan council, the Department of Finance approved the allocation of R48-million for infrastructure projects subject to certain conditions.

These included that the funds be used “to address capital infrastructure backlogs in poor areas”, that they be distributed equitably among local councils based on the relative extent of the backlogs and that agreement be reached with the local councils on the operating budget implications.

Details of the allocations have to be sent to the department within 60 days.

Mr Uys said in his response that this would set back the infrastructural development.

He said that poverty-stricken communities in the Cape metro area would suffer from the delay.

Most of the 80 projects approved by the metropolitan council in consultation with councillors from the six local councils were targeted at poor areas.

Approached for comment, Democratic Party councillor Brian Watkyns, who is a member of the city council and the metropolitan council, said that, because of the ANC’s actions at the city council, it was unlikely any of the projects would be completed in this financial year.

Mr Watkyns said “My claim that these actions are motivated by party politics is confirmed by the fact that the Department of Finance has used the same wording in its letter to the metropolitan council as the ANC resolution adopted by Cape Town last month.

“The DP once again calls on all parties, including the Department of Finance, to make a genuine attempt to resolve differences in the interest of the communities.”

ANC councillor Saleem Mowzer, city council executive committee chairman, said “We have made it clear that the R48-million fund must be spent on poor and poverty-stricken communities.”
PRISCILLA SINGH

THE Cape Metropolitan Council has taken a decision to scrap the controversial R50-million fund meant for poverty relief and to look at the matter afresh.

This decision follows a meeting yesterday at which the CMC and the City of Cape Town examined the allegedly unfair allocation of the R50m to flashy projects instead of to more urgent needs in poor areas.

The ANC-dominated Cape Town City Council declared a formal dispute with the NNP-led CMC about two weeks ago, saying that the CMC's about-turn on the criteria for the allocation of the money was "illegal, inequitable and unconstitutional." The CMC in turn accused the City of Cape Town of party-politicking.

At the heart of the dispute was the CMC's allocation of money for local functions and services — in the areas where they live — to councillors appointed on a proportional representation basis. In other words, they were not ward councillors, yet they were getting money for services in their residential areas in what was believed to be a vote-catch exercise.

The CMC apparently ignored the City of Cape Town's list of areas badly in need of upgrading and proceeded to earmark R1.5m for protection against beachfront erosion in Camps Bay, R1.44m for the Hugo Lamprecht Music Centre in Parow and R50 000 for the upgrading of the Boshoff Gates in Newlands.

Saleem Mowzer, chairperson of the City of Cape Town executive committee, said the council welcomed the CMC's decision to scrap the "inequitable allocation of the R50m discretionary fund."

"We believe the position we have taken on the matter for the past four weeks has been thoroughly vindicated," he said. "We look forward to working with the CMC and other local councils in ensuring these funds are properly allocated to meet the needs of the poor on an equitable basis and as rapidly as possible."

Mowzer said the CMC's decision would affect equitable allocation of all local government funds in the future.
Stand fast in Cape of Storms

BROWN AFRICANNERS READY TO

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

ESSAY

ELECTION

HARD AND CAROL PATON report

Consolidated Provincial Election Janet

Decide the outcome of the most fragile
of the Cape's colonies, whose voice will

The battle is on for the hearts and souls

SUNDAY ANALYSIS
Muslims ready to boycott elections

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Political tension in the Western Cape is mounting ahead of elections, with the situation likely to become even more volatile as Muslim groups start a campaign to boycott the polls.

Muslims Against Illegitimate Leaders (Mail) spokesman Abdurahman Khan says the organisation will be putting up posters, distributing leaflets and canvassing at political meetings to discourage people from voting. He spoke after organisations affiliated to the Islamic Unity Convention (IUC) met and decided at the weekend to encourage people not to vote.

The IUC claims to have 340 affiliates, representing thousands of Muslims countrywide. Its resolution against voting was based on the fact that no political party expressed the religious aspirations of Muslims, who could not support a secular state. It was also a protest against the lack of delivery, government’s failure to act against crime and government’s support for homosexuals’ and prostitutes’ rights.

Khan said the only party vaguely appealing to Mail was the Pan Africanist Congress because it supported having criminals punished by amputation.

Meanwhile, police say they have uncovered plans by People Against Gangsters and Drugs to launch a nationwide bombing campaign to disrupt elections. It allegedly began with the bombing of Athlone police station earlier this month.

Central government officials said they were more concerned about the security situation in the Western Cape than in KwaZulu-Natal.

Tension escalated yesterday with New National Party premier Gerald Morrel claiming that political intolerance was threatening to destabilise the province.

Morrel cancelled a visit to Vrygrond squatter camp on the Cape Flats, where he was scheduled to launch a home-building programme, after police advised him of the "life-threatening" presence of the African National Congress. The matter would be reported to the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, Morrel said. He claimed he was also prevented from addressing a meeting in the Riverston-derend town hall by ANC supporters’ last week. "The ANC claims to support democracy, but creates no-go areas for anyone not of their political persuasion," he said.

ANC spokesman Cameron Dugmore said Vrygrond’s community had the right to protest against Morrel’s presence.

At the weekend, the United Democratic Movement’s attempts to canvass in the ANC stronghold of Nyanga drew hostility from ANC supporters. IEC and Network of Independent Monitors officials and soldiers kept the two groups apart.

ANC provincial secretary Mcebisi Skwatsha said it was becoming difficult for the party to restrain members.

The IEC is concerned about the threats. However, IEC officer Courtney Sampson says the IEC is confident security forces will be able to deal with them.
IUC to exercise right not to vote

RHODA DAVIDS

THE Islamic Unity Convention (IUC) denies it is calling for a boycott of the election but says its members will exercise their right not to vote.

"The IUC is not urging others not to vote. It is our members who have decided to exercise their political right not to," Imam Ahmad Cassem, national chairperson of the IUC, said yesterday at a press conference.

Cassem emphasised that the IUC is not a racial or ethnic group, but rather a mass of people who have been oppressed. He added that there are more than 300 organisations within the IUC and all have expressed a vote of no-confidence in the political parties taking part in the election.

"We believe that the parties contesting the election cannot fulfil the aspirations of the oppressed masses, especially with the two cornerstones of the apartheid regime, racism and capitalism, still intact," said Cassem.

He added that alternatives to not participating in the election have been discussed, including an option that all Muslims should vote for the party of their choice. However, this was ruled out because the views of political parties could clash with the "moral standing" of Muslims.

Also considered was whether Muslims should be encouraged to vote for parties to the left of the ruling party.

"But to support a party, you have to support all its principles. Because all the principles of parties such as the PAC and Azapo cannot be endorsed, that too was ruled out," Cassem said.

CT 19/5/99
Cape Argus, Wednesday, May 26, 1999

ANC wins Tygerberg battle for Court rules against New NP
IEC DECISION OVERTURNED

Last-minute court case gives W Cape 42 seats

JOHANNESBURG: Within days of the election, rival political parties in the Western Cape have welcomed a Constitutional Court judgment that bolsters the province’s constitution.

The Constitutional Court yesterday overturned a decision by the Independent Electoral Commission to allow the Western Cape legislature only 39 members instead of 42 after the June 2 election.

The decision is not expected to influence the coming election, the court was told.

Constitutional Court president Justice Arthur Chaskalson handed down judgment following an urgent application by Western Cape Premier Gerald Moorl.

The matter was moved forward to yesterday because the election was only a week away.

“The number of 42 members in the Western Cape legislature is governed by section 13 of the constitution of the Western Cape,” Chaskalson said.

The determination by the respondents (IEC) that after the election there would be only 39 members is invalid,” he said.

The application was dismissed with costs. It was unanimous and reasons for the decision will be given at a later stage.

During argument, Justice Albie Sachs contended that the number of seats would not affect democracy—only the size of the legislature.

The national Constitution allows for deviations from the norm, he said.

In March this year, the IEC determined the size of provincial legislatures for after the June 2 election.

It ruled that the Western Cape would be allowed to have only 39 members in its legislature instead of the 42 provided for in the provincial constitution.

The figure was determined by the IEC in accordance with a formula prescribed by national legislation. The formula allows for one representative for every 100,000 of the population.

Using statistics from the 1996 population census putting the Western Cape population at 3,956,875, the IEC determined that the legislature should have only 39 members.

The Western Cape government argued on Wednesday that this decision by the IEC was at odds with the province’s constitution.

Legal counsel for the applicant, advocate Janet Kentridge, submitted that the number of seats in the Western Cape legislature was validly determined by the provincial constitution.

She argued that national legislation allowed for a number of between 30 and 80 representatives in the legislature. The Western Cape number of 42 fell well within this ambit.

The IEC, represented by advocate Ishmael Semenya, argued that the votes cast by the Western Cape electorate would not carry equal weight to those cast in other provinces.

Premier Moorl. expressed delight at the court’s decision, declaring it a “victory for the electorate in the province governed by the New National Party.”

The Democratic Party spokesman for the province, Hennie Bester, said the party is “thunderstruck” with the unanimous ruling by the court.—Sapa
After the resignations, the IUC immediately denounced the death threats it said its boycott call had arisen because it could not accept a secular state, and that none of the contesting parties represented its viewpoints on issues like the death penalty, prostitution and gay rights. It also objected to a general failure to curb crime and fulfill election promises.

IUC chairman Ahmad Cassiem is also the leader of Qibla, usually described as a fundamentalist group pressing for an Islamic state. There seems to be a great deal of overlapping between Qibla and the IUC, though the number of people involved is unknown. "They have never come clean," says an Islamic theologian.

Qibla has also been named in connection with the activities of Pagad, the controversial anti-Israel group linked to the assassination of known gangsters and to assorted terror bombs in the Western Cape. The connection has not been proved, however, and there are suggestions that there is antagonism between Pagad and Qibla.

The IUC claims to represent 342 affiliates with a total national membership of 100,000 Muslims. If true, this would be almost a quarter of SA's 450,000 Muslims, about 1.3% of the population. Yet in 1994, when two overtly Muslim parties stood for office, not one made the slightest headway.

Western Cape ANC leader Ibrahim Rasool, a Muslim, has slammed the IUC for being unrepresentative of Islamic opinion, which he says vests largely in the Muslim

QIBLA'S VAIN CRUSADE

By the beginning of this week, a small number of Muslims working for the independent Electoral Commission had resigned after getting death threats. One obvious conclusion was that this was a consequence of last week's call by a body called the Islamic Unity Convention (IUC) for Muslims to boycott the June 2 election.

The least the IUC owns the public as a membership list — which it has refused to public.

The National Council of Provinces from the Muslim vote a leading role in the contemporary party.

Cassiem's utterances are frequently a product of the truth is often a market for his incendiary words.
POLITICS

'M 000 TO STAY AWAY ON MORAL GROUNDS'

Muslim body shuns polls

ABDURAHMAN KHAN, head of Muslims Against Illegitimate Leaders, says he prevented a speaker from delivering the Muslim Judicial Council's appeal to Muslims to vote. GASANT ABAZER reports.

MUSLIMS Against Illegitimate Leaders (Mail) claimed yesterday that its 5,000 members would not go to the polls on Wednesday even though they had registered to vote.

Chairperson Abdur Rahman Khan also disclosed that he had been responsible for preventing a speaker from delivering the Muslim Judicial Council's (MJC) appeal to Muslims to vote just before Friday's prayers at the Gatesville Mosque.

On Friday, sheikhs and imams at 100 mosques in the Western Cape urged the Muslim community to take part in the elections. However, at the Gatesville Mosque, the president of the Muslim Youth Movement, Naem Jeenah, was shouted down before he could deliver the MJC's appeal.

"We knew Jeenah would attend the mosque and we allowed him to speak," Khan said. "We were tolerant. He spoke about moral issues, but sidestepped questions of immorality. It was when he made sweeping statements that Muslims made use of prostitution, that their children were having abortions and that they participated in gambling that I had to stop him."

"The MJC has no right to impose its opinions on people in this way."

The prayers continued, Khan said, and he escorted Jeenah out of the mosque to ensure his safety.

It was "amusing" that several members of the police and media were near the mosque at the time, Khan said. Members of the congregation had been rate.

The chairperson of the Gatesville Mosque, Sattar Parker, said: "Jeenah was invited to speak about why Muslims could vote if they so desired."

"This was a sequel to Imam Ahsan Cassim's lecture, given on the previous Friday, about his decision not to vote," Parker said. "We felt it was important that members of the Gatesville congregation should hear both sides so they could make an informed choice."

Outlining the reasons why Mail and its members - which he said number 5,000 nationally - would abstain from voting, Khan said a state that supports prostitution, gambling and abortion could not be endorsed.

"We want to call on the community - Jewish, Christian, Hindus and all religions, especially the oppressed - in joining what is right and forbidden what is evil."

A state "must be based on some sort of religious principles", Khan said.

"As a taxpayer I have the right to oppose a government that is based on lies, deceit, corruption, immorality and broken promises. I want to bring into question the legitimacy of this government."

Khan said he had heard of the threats that prompted Muslim members of the Independent Electoral Commission to resign. He gave an assurance that Mail would not disrupt the elections, although it would monitor them.
UDM gains ground in Kitchen Karoo corner
cast vote for water
Thirsty Zoar set to
The villagers, which has a proud record in the anti-pressure movement, still make use of the natural water source. Most of the residents are engaged in farming and have little contact with the outside world. Since the 1991 election, the ANC has been able to attract support from the majority of the residents. The ANC's campaign in Zorak has been successful, and the local residents are now more aware of their rights and have become more active in political affairs.
Late crowds a security concern

Officials calm tense situations in Cape Peninsula

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Congestion at 12 polling stations in the Western Cape led to at least one incident of violence where security forces had to be called in to restore order.

Crowds of up to 4,000 were keen to cast their votes, and provincial electoral officer Courtney Sampson said the situation was extremely tense. However, waiting people calmed down once they realised they would be able to cast their votes.

While voting got off to a smooth start at most polling stations — 80% of registered voters in the province had voted by 5pm — voters became frustrated as the day progressed and queues lengthened. This was especially so at Cape Flats townships such as Khayelitsha, Crossroads, Nyanga and Guguletu in Khayelitsha, frustrated people started pushing, and damaged the polling station.

Political leaders described the queues as “unbelievable”, “excessive” and “unacceptable”. As night fell, the queues raised security concerns.

According to election officials, the delays were exacerbated by the arrival of declaration voters, following a late change to the election regulations which allowed people to vote away from their registration points.

Many Cape Town-based voters from the Eastern Cape made use of this concession Sampson could not say how many declaration voters there were, but he believed they were adding significantly to the overcrowding.

The Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) decided that all those still queuing to vote at the 5pm deadline would be allowed to vote, however late.

Staff and resources from underutilised stations were redeployed to black areas.

The African National Congress (ANC) complained that black areas had been underresourced, and said it would not accept losing votes because of this.

Despite recent clashes between ANC and United Democratic Movement (UDM) members, no violence was reported. There was a hoax bomb threat at a Nyanga polling station.

Two presiding officers were investigated for bias. One in Kyamandi in Stellenbosch was removed after the UDM claimed he was suggesting to voters that they choose the ANC.

Political parties kept a vigilant eye on their rivals, monitoring the IEC with complaints of intimidation and irregular canvassing. Some charges were laid.

The DP lodged a complaint that the presiding officer in New Crossroads, Dawkala Ncubeta, had threatened its agents with death and forced them out of the station. The ANC lodged a complaint with the police about a farmer who refused to allow people onto his farm to vote at the polling station.

The ANC’s highly visible at the perimeter of polling stations, where information tables had been positioned, led to numerous complaints about improper canvassing — even though this practice is allowed by the Electoral Act.

The Inkatha Freedom Party complained that ANC officials were campaigning inside the perimeters of voting stations.

Problems with ballot papers and other equipment meant some polling stations opened late. However, by 1pm all stations were operational.

After party officials complained that tender ballot papers had been used at several polling stations, instead of proper papers, the IEC decided with the concurrence of all the parties that these ballot papers should be counted. Tender ballots are designed for those not on the voters’ roll who insist they have registered, and may be counted if the Electoral Court gives the go-ahead.
MISH-MASH: At 10pm last night — an hour after polling stations were supposed to close — there was chaos at the Joe Slovo High School in Khayelitsha where thousands of residents waited for hours to vote

PICTURE: JACE LESTRADE

‘POLLLING STATIONS UNPREPARED’

Raw deal for black voters

THOUSANDS of people in African areas were unable to vote yesterday because of long queues and short resources. In predominantly white and coloured areas, voting proceeded smoothly. JUDITH SOAL and JOHNSON MESI report

S HORTLY before midnight last night, hundreds of people were still queuing to vote at the Nozizwe Education Centre in Khayelitsha.

At Joe Slovo High School, down the road, police and would-be voters almost came to blows until a second classroom was turned into a polling station — at 10pm.

At nearby Chumisa Primary School about 800 voters packed onto the school concourse at 9pm to avoid being locked out of the premises. It was much the same in Gugulethu, Nyanga, Langa, Philippi and Crossroads. All day people queued around the block, waiting in the hot sun to cast their votes.

Many waited up to eight hours before they could vote, others gave up long before that.

Yet in the southern suburbs the queues were virtually non-existent in Mitchells Plain you might expect to queue for about two hours, in Woodstock less than half that.

“This is just completely unacceptable,” said ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool last night.

“We warned the IEC that this would happen after we saw the trend with the special voting, but still nothing was done.”

Rasool was travelling between polling stations in Khayelitsha last night to see the queues for himself.

The ANC believes that 50,000 people, mostly ANC supporters, were prejudiced by this “administrative blundering”.

“In white areas there are whole polling stations for 500 voters, but here you have 6,000 people supposed to vote in one tiny room,” he said. The IEC employs the same number of staff to run the small stations as for the large ones.

“We are going around seeing where the problems are and what can be done,” Rasool said. “But this is the IEC’s job, they should be here. What is remarkable is that the voters are still here, I applaud them for their patience.”

But not every one was so patient. It is impossible to say how many people went straight home when they saw the long queues or gave up after a few hours’ wait.

One of these people was Mams Bovana Bovana and a group of her friends arrived at the Gugulethu Civic Hall at 10am, before the sun was at its peak. By 3pm, after standing outside with her child on her back for close on five hours, she gave up.

“This is enough,” she said. “I am tired and my child is hungry and we are going home.”

Earlier police had to call for reinforcements at the station because some people in the queue became impatient and started pushing to get into the hall. No one was hurt but the mood remained tense throughout the day. At another station a steel gate was pushed down when voters tried to move forward.

In Khayelitsha a woman’s arm was broken when she was crushed by a crowd of people trying to get into a voting station.

ANC youth leader Vuyani Ngcobo said 60% of the polling stations in the Khayelitsha area were not using scanners. “Some places don’t have electricity and there are no batteries, some of them don’t work, sometimes people don’t know how to use them. It is a problem.”

Because voting was set to continue into the early morning, no results from these areas can be expected until late today. There is no doubt that these are ANC areas and there’s no doubt that the areas where voting went smoothly are likely to favour the ANC.

ANC spokesperson Cameron Dugmore was uncharacteristically sombre last night. “These people have suffered enough,” he said.

“Was this really necessary?”

He said the fact that some election officials were trying to find generators to provide light at 3am was a “clear indication of neglect and disregard.”
Cape Town Muslimes Defy Call to Boycott Election

Many join queues to exercise democratic right to vote.
Spirit of change sends winelands to the polls
It's still neck and neck for the Peninsula vote

DP's showing puts it among the Big Three

By Michael Morris
Special Writer

Votes were still being counted in the close contest in the Western Cape early today, but clear patterns of support have emerged in the six municipal areas of the Peninsula.

With 47.7% support, the African National Congress is dominant in Cape Town central - which includes the central city, the Atlantic seaboard, Guguletu, Langa, Nyanga, Crossroads, Philippi and Mitchell's Plain.

But the New National Party is ahead everywhere, with its best showing so far (56.7%) in Helderberg, covering Strand, Somerset West, Gordon's Bay, Macassar and Wynberg, and Oostenberg (49.5%), which includes Kraaifontein, Kuit's River and Blue Downs.

In spite of its second-fiddle performance in the City of Cape Town, where its tally is under 30% - the New NP's average support of more than 44% in the Peninsula as a whole is significantly higher than its average throughout the province, now standing at about 33%.

Signs of the Democratic Party's broadening appeal beyond its traditional support base showed in its more than 22% share of Blaauwberg votes in the West Coast district, from Milnerton and Melkbosstrand to Atlantis and Mamre, and its 11.6% share of votes in Oostenberg.

The DP's highest tally of 28% in the South Peninsula - covering Wynberg, Constantia, Muizenberg, Hout Bay, Retreat and Grassy Park - puts it in second place here, confirming its consolidation of the party's traditional urban support.

South Peninsula is the only metropolitan area in which the ANC trails in third place, with 18.6% of the vote.

In the other five metropolitan areas, the New NP and ANC are the primary contenders. The African Christian Democratic Party scored its highest tallies in the South Peninsula (5.5%) and Helderberg (4.7%).

The United Democratic Movement has drawn its highest support so far (9.4%) in the Cape Town metropolitan area, while the Pan Africanist Congress appears to be a spent force, in the Peninsula. It failed to garner a full percentage in any of the six metropolitan areas.

Intriguingly, political newcomer, the African Moral Party, won 1.6% of votes in the Cape Town metropolitan area, and just more than 1% in the South Peninsula.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Votes</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African National Party</td>
<td>293,049</td>
<td>39.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African National Congress</td>
<td>263,710</td>
<td>36.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democratic Party</td>
<td>110,642</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**African Christian Democratic Party** (28,019) 3.61%

**United Democratic Movement** (19,149) 2.66%

**African Moral Party** (8,370) 0.88%

**Pan Africanist Congress of Azania** (2,935) 0.41%

**Freedom Front** (1,679) 0.23%

**The Government by the People Green Party** (1,567) 0.22%

**Federal Alliance** (1,070) 0.15%

**Inkatha Freedom Party** (977) 0.13%

**Africaner Eenheidsbeweging** (856) 0.09%

**National Coalition Party** (438) 0.06%

**Peoples Liberation party** (436) 0.06%

**Workers International Vanguard League** (240) 0.03%

Unofficial figures compiled from results in the full 14 local municipalities: Central Cape Town, Tygerberg, Southern Peninsula, Cape Town, Helderberg and Blaauwberg.
Leaders of NATS, DP and ACPP continue Coalition talks today.
ANC landslide in national poll

ANC confident in W Cape win

ELECTION

June 4, 1999

99
ACDP holds province's future in its hands

Knife edge deal on
The unlikely King-maker

Election surprise: Tiny party could hold key as politicians thrash out coalition to rule the Western Cape

[Image of a black and white photo of a person with a mask]
How Cape Town voted

BOBBY JORDAN

UNVERIFIED election results released by the IEC yesterday afternoon revealed an interesting geography of political support in greater Cape Town. A results breakdown of each of the city's six metropolitan substructures shows how each party fared in the provincial vote:

- In central Cape Town, the ANC fared best with 45.8 percent of votes, followed by the NP with 20.3 percent and the DP with 14.3 percent. At the other extreme, the Freedom Front, the National Coalition Party and the Workers International Vanguard League managed only 0.05 percent each.
- In the Tygerberg municipality, the ANC was marginally ahead of the NP with 43.3 percent compared with the NP's 40.4 percent. The DP was a distant third with 9.3 percent. The only other parties to score more than one percent were the ACDP with 2.6 percent and the UDM with 1.7 percent. Bottom of the log was the African Moral Party with 0.07 percent.
- In the Helderberg municipality, the NP topped the list with 48.6 percent, compared with the ANC's 29 percent. The DP was third with 14.4 percent and the ACDP fourth with 3.9 percent. Of the other parties, only the UDM broke the one percent barrier with 1.9 percent.
- In the Oostenberg municipality, the NP scored 48.4 percent compared with the ANC's 32.7 percent. The DP was again third with 10.5 percent and the ACDP fourth with 3.7 percent. Bringing up the rear again was the Workers International Vanguard League with only 0.03 percent (25 votes).
- In the Blaauwberg municipality, the NP scored 46.05 percent compared with the ANC's 27.37 percent. The People's Liberation Party managed only 12 votes or 0.03 percent—five votes more than the Workers International Vanguard League.
- In the South Peninsula, the NP scored 42.71 percent compared with the ANC's 20.8 percent. In second place was the DP with 20.6 percent—its strongest showing of all the voting areas. Bottom of the log was the WVF, with 50 votes, or 0.04 percent.

The most votes were cast in Cape Town central (344,169), Tygerberg (313,813) and the South Peninsula (129,831). Of the lesser populated substructures, Oostenberg registered the most (90,445) followed by Helderberg (56,536) and Blaauwberg (47,914).
Abandoned: ballot papers found thrown under a tree

Eleven ballot papers packed in an unsealed ballot box have been found abandoned under a tree in Belhar, a stronghold of the New National Party.

The papers, national and provincial ballots, are all spoiled except for one - which is marked "disputed."

The ballots, folded neatly together, were discovered by Belhar resident Donald Holmes, who spotted the box as he walked by. He has made a statement under oath to Belhar police.

New NP MP Stan Simmonds and City of Tygerberg New NP councillor Gerald Siljeur were informed and took the papers to the Independent Electoral Commission office in Parow.

Tygerberg IEC officer Pieter van Gendt said the incident was the first of its kind in the Western Cape election and that the issue would be investigated.

He said ballot paper accounting had not been done yet. Boxes had been sent from the IEC in Pretoria and not numbered - and at this stage IEC officials could not establish from which polling station it came.

Mr Simmonds said, "The discovery is a reflection on the competence of IEC officials who did duty in the Belhar area."

Mr Siljeur, a Belhar church pastor, said the discarded ballot papers could make a difference in the elections.

"This is a small amount, but what of the other areas?"

Mr Van Gendt said the IEC officials would investigate the issue today.
Cape Nats split over coalition partners

Nats split over coalition

Marius set to call for power-sharing deal with ANC

ANC 7/6/99 (643)
WITH NO OUTRIGHT WINNER in the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal provincial elections, parties were still busy last night with coalition-causing in bids to secure the most seats. In these provinces, ANDRE KOOPMAN, KARIN SCHIMKE and ROBERT BRAND report.

The African National Congress, which won the majority vote in the Western Cape — giving it 18 seats in the 42-seat provincial legislature — was last night wooing the tiny African Christian Democratic Party, which won a single seat, to bolster its own negotiating position.

The New National Party, with 38,39% of the vote (16 seats), the Democratic Party, with its 11,91% (five seats), and the African Christian Democratic Party, with its 2,79% (one seat), announced at the weekend that they were busy with an informal round of talks aimed at achieving a coalition which can keep the ANC out of government. The UDM is expected to get one seat. The final seat has not yet been decided.

Although the election results are unverified, there are unlikely to be major changes when the official results are released later today.

ACDP provincial leader Michael Louw said he would talk to parties about having “an inclusive government” in the Western Cape. He confirmed that he was to meet the ANC last night to discuss “multi-party government”.

ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool said after the meeting that it was “constructive” and that “we came away with the impression that the ACDP will not gang up against the ANC and that it respects the fact that the ANC has emerged as the major party”.

Louw, who appears to be playing a king-making role in the sensitive coalition talks, admitted last night that he is adopting a “facilitating position”. He said his party is ideally placed for this as it has no “hidden agenda” and has taken a decision at national level to “debate the issues and not fight political parties during the election”.

Meanwhile, top business leaders indicated yesterday that they would be unwise to exclude the ANC from government in the Western Cape. They are set to express these sentiments today, according to reliable sources.

The ANC provincial executive had a meeting yesterday.

Coalition talks

From Page 1

to thrash out coalition issues. The NNP’s federal executive and the ANC’s national working committee are due to meet today.

Rumours intensified yesterday that NNP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk, whose party was devastated at the polls — will be offered a cabinet post to sweeten a deal in the Western Cape where the ANC would lead the government in coalition with the NNP.

Some NNP sources said Van Schalkwyk and Health MEC Peter Marais are in favour of this while Premier Gerald Morkel and the “Broederbond cabal” are against it.

Others said Van Schalkwyk would not accept this deal since it would be seen as capitulation.

It is understood that a similar deal will be sought for KwaZulu-Natal, where Inkatha Freedom Party leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi — who has moved closer to the ANC recently — would become the country’s deputy president. In return, ANC KwaZulu-Natal leader Shub Ndebele would be appointed as the new premier in a coalition government with the IFP.

The DP’s James Selfe said yesterday it had been his party’s stance all along that it would not govern with the ANC. “The DP’s decision-making structures are discussing the various scenarios and will weigh them all up. A government of provincial unity is a...

Latest unverified national election results.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Vote %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANC</td>
<td>46.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NP</td>
<td>9.55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFP</td>
<td>8.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NNP</td>
<td>6.87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UDM</td>
<td>3.42%</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACDP</td>
<td>1.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VVF</td>
<td>0.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC</td>
<td>0.71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Although the ANC appeared to be falling marginally short of the majority in the National Assembly, the party seemed confident that with the help of the party’s own members, the party would still be able to form a majority in the assembly. Meanwhile, President Nelson Mandela was to meet the country’s political leaders today over the possibility of forming a majority.
Western Cape deal in balance

Linda Enser

CAPE TOWN — The question of African National Congress (ANC) participation in the Western Cape government appeared last night to have created a stumbling block to negotiations between the New National Party (NNP), the Democratic Party (DP) and the African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) on a coalition agreement.

A news conference to announce the agreement was cancelled 45 minutes before it was due to happen.

DP provincial leader Henkie Bester, who is opposed to ANC participation, would not comment on a suggestion that he had threatened to withdraw from the coalition should the ANC be offered a provincial cabinet position.

Earlier in the day the NNP's federal council decided to explore its views on "inclusive government" with its two possible coalition partners in the Western Cape.

It transpired that premier Gerald Morkel had offered the ANC one cabinet portfolio, the deputy speaker's position and chairmanship of the public accounts committee — an offer ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool said was "deeply insulting".

The election results announced by the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) last night gave the NNP 18 seats in the 42-member provincial legislature, the DP five, the ACDP one and the United Democratic Movement one. This secured 24 seats for the coalition, against the ANC's 18. To elect the premier a party or coalition needs 22 seats.

Rasool noted that parliamentary convention abroad dictated that it was the biggest party which initiated negotiations on coalition. Yet Morkel had refused to return the six calls he had made since Thursday until 4 15pm yesterday. His request for a meeting late yesterday after announcing a news conference was "contemptible".

Rasool called for the start of bona fide discussions "to come to an agreement which reflects a much broader consensus".

The ANC's national working committee yesterday gave the ANC in the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal a mandate to explore the possibility of a coalition government with the NNP and the Inkatha Freedom Party respectively, but only if it was based on principles.

Congress of SA Trade Unions provincial secretary Tony Ehrenreich was disturbed that the decision on a coalition had been made despite considerable pressure for the ANC be represented fully. Cosatu would meet tomorrow to consider what action to take.

Horse-trading starts in earnest; Page 4
Make or Break for W Cape Coalition

To page 2

The ANC was very unequivocally to blame for the situation in the province, with the provincial government failing to address the needs of the people. The ANC's failure to provide adequate services and infrastructure to the residents of the province was a major issue. The ANC's lack of accountability and transparency in its administration was also a concern. The ANC's handling of the provincial budget was criticized for being inefficient and wasteful. The ANC's inability to address the issues of crime, unemployment, and poverty in the province was seen as a failure of leadership.

The ANC's failure to address the needs of the people was evident in its inability to provide adequate healthcare, education, and housing. The ANC's record on these issues was poor, with a lack of investment in these areas. The ANC's failure to address the needs of the people was also evident in its failure to address the issues of corruption and fraud within the ANC. The ANC's inability to address these issues was seen as a failure of leadership.

The ANC's failure to address the needs of the people was also evident in its failure to address the issues of inequality and poverty in the province. The ANC's record on these issues was poor, with a lack of investment in these areas. The ANC's failure to address the issues of inequality and poverty was seen as a failure of leadership.

The ANC's failure to address the needs of the people was also evident in its failure to address the issues of crime and violence in the province. The ANC's record on these issues was poor, with a lack of investment in these areas. The ANC's failure to address the issues of crime and violence was seen as a failure of leadership.

The ANC's failure to address the needs of the people was also evident in its failure to address the issues of environmental degradation in the province. The ANC's record on these issues was poor, with a lack of investment in these areas. The ANC's failure to address the issues of environmental degradation was seen as a failure of leadership.

The ANC's failure to address the needs of the people was also evident in its failure to address the issues of water and sanitation in the province. The ANC's record on these issues was poor, with a lack of investment in these areas. The ANC's failure to address the issues of water and sanitation was seen as a failure of leadership.

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The ANC's failure to address the needs of the people was also evident in its failure to address the issues of road and transport in the province. The ANC's record on these issues was poor, with a lack of investment in these areas. The ANC's failure to address the issues of road and transport was seen as a failure of leadership.

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The ANC's failure to address the needs of the people was also evident in its failure to address the issues of social welfare and social security in the province. The ANC's record on these issues was poor, with a lack of investment in these areas. The ANC's failure to address the issues of social welfare and social security was seen as a failure of leadership.

The ANC's failure to address the needs of the people was also evident in its failure to address the issues of economic development and growth in the province. The ANC's record on these issues was poor, with a lack of investment in these areas. The ANC's failure to address the issues of economic development and growth was seen as a failure of leadership.

The ANC's failure to address the needs of the people was also evident in its failure to address the issues of culture and heritage in the province. The ANC's record on these issues was poor, with a lack of investment in these areas. The ANC's failure to address the issues of culture and heritage was seen as a failure of leadership.

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The ANC's failure to address the needs of the people was also evident in its failure to address the issues of agriculture and food security in the province. The ANC's record on these issues was poor, with a lack of investment in these areas. The ANC's failure to address the issues of agriculture and food security was seen as a failure of leadership.

The ANC's failure to address the needs of the people was also evident in its failure to address the issues of energy and power in the province. The ANC's record on these issues was poor, with a lack of investment in these areas. The ANC's failure to address the issues of energy and power was seen as a failure of leadership.

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COMMUNICATING
ON THE CONTENT AND
POSITIONS OF THE
PARTY AND THE
GOVERNMENT
OF THE
PROVINCE
OF THE
NATIONAL
As the Independent ElectoralCommission, we announce the final results of
the election. Our task has been fulfilled. It is now time for the
people to move forward.
that would have excluded the ANC. The ANC gained 18 seats, the NNP 17, Democratic Party five, the African Democratic Party one and the United Democratic Movement one.

An incensed Ebrahim Rasool, leader of the ANC in the Western Cape, slamming what he described as "contumable" behaviour by his NNP counterpart, Gerald Moskeli, said Moskeli had asked for a meeting with the ANC only at 7pm — just hours after he had issued a press alert at 4pm about the impending media briefing, which was later cancelled. Moskeli had not returned any of the six calls he had made to him since the results began filtering up, Rasool said.

Responding, Moskeli said the briefing had been called off to "facilitate further communication" with the ANC and to allow Rasool time to respond.

"The NNP, DP and ACDP agreed in principle to form a coalition and approach the ANC in good faith to discuss its position," he said. "Unfortunately, Mr Moskeli responded in bad faith. We are holding the door open to the ANC for further discussions (today) to make the process as inclusive as possible to the benefit of all people in the Western Cape."

It was customary for proportional representation systems around the world to discuss coalitions.

"The ANC is unfortunately grandstanding to upset a normal democratic process," said Moskeli.

NNP sources had said earlier that a split within the NNP over which parties it should include in a coalition would cause a rift between the ANC and Moskeli. This, they said, had apparently been smoothed over at the federal executive's meeting at a secret venue in Stellenbosch.

A party insider said yesterday afternoon that the NNP would possibly make the ANC an offer, including a low-key cabinet position, which it "could only refuse", but that the NNP would then hold the moral high ground as it would be seen to be trying to achieve multiparty government.

Rasool said the NNP's offer of a cabinet position, the deputy speaker's chair and the chair of the public accounts committee were "deeply insulting to the ANC and the majority of the people of the province."

The ANC's support had come from all people in the province and it was clear Moskeli had failed to act in the best interests of the province.

"He has acted selfishly and in a short-sighted manner," Rasool said.

Cosatu had threatened to mobilise mass action to press for the ANC's inclusion in the provincial government, while business leaders were lobbying opposition parties, pointing out that it would be unfair to exclude the ANC, given its overwhelming national majority.

Political analysts, including Richard Calland of Iloilo, noted that dealing the ANC out of provincial government would be a body blow to reconciliation as the majority of the African population who had voted for the ANC would see themselves as excluded again from government.

ANC national spokesperson Thabo Masebe said the party's national working committee had instructed the Western Cape leadership to talk to the NNP about a possible alliance.

"The meeting decided that negotiations with the NNP (should) explore a provincial
democracy, and it is bad for business and economic development because it advocates confrontation and not co-operation," Ramatikalane said.

Provincial DP leader Hennie Bester said Cosatu's threat to mobilise demonstrated its "contempt for democracy". It was important to point out that "58% of the people voted for parties opposing the ANC", he said. "If the ANC is genuinely committed to the Constitution and the values it embodies, it and its political allies should be prepared to consider the possibility of being the loyal opposition."

The UDM, contesting its first election, took 14 seats in the National Assembly, while the ACDP increased its seats from two to six. The Pan African Congress, the United Christian Democratic Party and the Freedom Front each won three seats, the Federal Alliance two, and Azapo, the Minority Front and Afikansi "Fanele Mpho" five.

In KwaZulu-Natal, the IFP won 34 seats, ANC — 32, DP — 7; NNP — three, Minority Front — two; ACDP won one seat, and the UDMM one.

In Gauteng, the ANC took 50 seats, DP — 13, IFP — three, NNP — three, ACDP — one, FND — one, and UDMM one.
Koornhof, Zille may get posts in W Cape cabinet

Karin Schimke
Political Writer

FORMER MEC for Education Nic Koornhof and former journalist and UCT spokesperson Hellen Zille could serve in the cabinet of the new Western Cape government depending on the deal struck on a coalition government between the DP and the NNP.

Both are in the top five of the DP's provincial election list.

According to the final tally for seats in provincial legislature revealed last night, the ANC will get the most seats in the legislature, namely 18. Topping the list is provincial ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool, followed by former Cape Town mayor Teresa Solomon and former Transport MEC Leonard Ramatlakane Cameron Dugmore, Tasneem Essop, Yusuf Gaphu, Lynne Brown and Garth Strachan all retained their seats.

The NNP will get 17 seats.

According to the last NNP's provincial list, the top Nats in the legislature will be current Premier Gerhard Moralee, Peter Marais (formerly health MEC), Piet Meyer (formerly Transport MEC), Freda Adams (in charge of the aged, disabled and youth in the premier's office), Leon Markovitz (formerly finance MEC), Pierre Uys (formerly chairperson of the GCMC's exco), Willem Domon (formerly the Speaker of the Western Cape parliament) and Ryno King (chief whp).

Mark Wiley, Community Safety MEC in the former government, and Housing MEC Cecil Herandien, also make it into the provincial legislature.

The DP has received five seats in the legislature. This means Henne Bester (provincial DP leader and MEC for Trade, Industry and Tourism in the last government), Glen Adams (businessman and former ANC member) and Daniel Silke (DP spokesperson on finance) will be in the legislature, along with Koornhof and Zille.

The UDM and ACDP will get one seat each. Archie Lewis will represent the former, and Michael Louie the latter.
Election results signal the end of a long-held political reality. The ANC, which has dominated South African politics since the early 1990s, faces an uncertain future. The party's traditional support base in rural areas and among black voters has eroded, while it struggles to improve its standing in urban areas and among white voters.

In the latest elections, the ANC lost its majority in parliament, and several key leaders were removed from their positions. These developments have raised questions about the party's ability to govern effectively and its future prospects.

The ANC has faced criticism over its handling of corruption, economic policies, and its response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These challenges have contributed to a decline in its support among the electorate.

The next few years will be crucial for the ANC as it attempts to recover from this setback and find new ways to connect with voters. The party will need to address its internal divisions and develop a new strategy to remain relevant in the face of growing political competition.
House style wars ahead as 13 parties jostle for attention

The major parties have been working hard behind the scenes to develop their own unique look and feel. The Labor Party has launched a new logo featuring a stylized image of a leaf, while the Liberal Party has unveiled a new colour scheme that includes a range of shades of blue.

In contrast, the Greens have chosen a more minimalist approach, with a simple white background and a logo that resembles a stylized tree. The Nationals have gone for a more traditional approach, with a logo that features a stylized image of a sheep.

The minor parties have been equally creative. The Country Liberal Party has launched a new logo featuring a stylized image of a cow, while the Australian Greens have chosen a more abstract approach, with a logo that resembles a stylized image of a leaf.

The Palmer United Party has gone for a more futuristic look, with a logo that features a stylized image of a robot. The Democratic Labor Party has chosen a more retro approach, with a logo that resembles a stylized image of a record player.

The Independent Party has launched a new logo featuring a stylized image of a fish, while the True Blue Alliance has chosen a more traditional approach, with a logo that resembles a stylized image of a soccer ball.

The United Australia Party has gone for a more minimalist approach, with a logo that features a stylized image of a star. The Australian Conservatives have chosen a more abstract approach, with a logo that resembles a stylized image of a cloud.

The Centre Alliance has launched a new logo featuring a stylized image of a bird, while the Australian Democrats have gone for a more traditional approach, with a logo that resembles a stylized image of a key.

The Australian Coalition for Clean Energy has chosen a more retro approach, with a logo that resembles a stylized image of a clock. The Australian Liberal Party has gone for a more minimalist approach, with a logo that features a stylized image of a heart.

The Australian National Party has launched a new logo featuring a stylized image of a wheat ear, while the Australian Nationals have chosen a more traditional approach, with a logo that resembles a stylized image of a tree.

The Australian Socialists have launched a new logo featuring a stylized image of a hand, while the Australian Greens have gone for a more abstract approach, with a logo that resembles a stylized image of a wave.
NNP-ACDP-DP deal looks sealed in Western Cape

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — A coalition government in the Western Cape between the New National Party (NNP), the Democratic Party (DP) and the African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) appears certain after the African National Congress (ANC) rejected the coalition's renewed offer of one cabinet seat yesterday.

The next stage in the coalition's negotiations would be to determine the allocation of cabinet seats between the three parties, sources said. An offer to the ANC was a condition laid down by the ACDP.

The coalition partners at a meeting with an ANC delegation including Justice Muster Dullah Omar, provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool and provincial secretary Mcebisi Skwatsha, reiterated the offer — which the ANC had already rejected as "deeply insulting" — of the safety and security portfolio, the position of deputy speaker and the chairmanship of the public accounts committee. After the meeting, premier Gerald Morkel sent a letter to Rasool, again repeating the offer.

While both sides said the door was open for further talks, Omar and Rasool said the chances of the coalition budding from its position of marginalising the ANC appeared slim. "We leave with the sense that we were presented with a fait accompli as it seemed that they already had their coalition sewn up," Rasool said after the meeting with the coalition partners — premier Gerald Morkel, DP provincial leader Henne Bester and ACDP leader Michael Louw.

Morkel said the coalition, which represented 53% of the electorate compared with the ANC's 42%, had the right to form the majority in the provincial government. The ANC delegation appealed to the coalition partners to discuss the principle of creating an inclusive, fully representative government which created unity across the traditional racial divides of the province.

The ANC also highlighted the dangers of excluding the black majority, 60% of the rural community and 35%-40% of the urban coloured communities represented by it. The party was asked by the coalition partners whether it wanted more cabinet seats, but it was adamant that it would not start horse trading over posts until agreement had been reached on the broad principles of a new government.

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JH
ANC rejects token offer

NPP, DP want lion's share
Cape parties wrap up coalition agreement

Cosatu says it will ask business to put pressure on government

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The trio of coalition parties in the Western Cape have finalised a deal on a multiparty government, refusing to bow to Congress of SA Trade Unions (Cosatu) threats of mass action.

The African National Congress (ANC) has been given until 12am today to accept one cabinet post, the deputy speaker’s position and the chairmanship of the public accounts committee, an offer it has repeatedly rejected as “deeply insulting.”

The Democratic Party (DP) provincial leader Hennie Bester said it would not be possible to offer the ANC more seats as a partner in the multiparty government as this would counter the DP’s mandate from the electorate to limit the concentration of ANC power.

Endorsement by the party structures of the DP and the African Christian Democratic Party is considered a formality.

The federal council and the New National Party had given the deal the go-ahead, Western Cape premier Gert Mortel said yesterday.

He said the decision was final and the three parties would not be open to persuasion.

Mortel would remain premier, but the allocation of seats and the MECs selected to fill them would be announced within a few days.

The agreement stated that the provincial government would be “open, transparent, responsive and accessible” to all the people of the Western Cape and would be governed in terms of the mandate of the three parties which would have the right to publicly disagree and rally against decisions taken by the executive.

The agreement committed the government to social upliftment, fighting crime and job creation and to setting “measurable goals for the delivery of social benefits, particularly to the poorest of the poor, and to those disadvantaged or dispossessed by poverty, inferior education, inadequate shelter and poor health.”

“The government will within 100 days of the first session of the provincial parliament set specific goals to provide these services to all within the constraints of available financial resources.

“Specific goals will be established for each service delivery department under the control of the province and performance audits will be undertaken on a regular basis.” Representatives of the parties committed themselves to efficiency, zero tolerance of corruption and the achievement of small government by means of devolution, privatisation or outsourcing services where possible, as well as a co-operative relationship with central government.

Mortel stressed that the multiparty government represented the will of the majority of voters in the province — with or without the participation of the ANC.

“The real test for democracy in SA is whether the ANC and its allies will accept an outcome that puts them in opposition rather than in government,” he said.

Health MEC Peter Marais criticised the ANC’s negotiating tactics saying it had ruined its chances by threatening mass action. He conceded though that things “could have been better.”

Meanwhile, Cosatu’s Western Cape regional executive was to approach business associations today to discuss bringing joint pressure on the coalition. It would then decide on the nature of the action and would work in conjunction with other organs of society. This could take the form of strikes though Cosatu was concerned not to disrupt the economy.

A plan of action would be formulated by Friday morning.
ANC rejects token share in coalition (263)

Clive Snyman
Political Correspondent

Western Cape African National Congress leader Ebrahim Rasool sent Premier Gerald Morkel a letter today rejecting the small share of coalition government offered to it by the New National Party, Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party.

But the ANC is reliably understood to be still open to initiatives which would enable the formation of an inclusive provincial government.

Efforts by Western Cape business leaders to pave the way for an all-party government are continuing. At the same time, an ANC task team has been set up to chart the party’s options as it prepares to become the official opposition in the legislature.

The Group of Three non-ANC parties announced last night that they had agreed to form a multi-party government and gave the ANC until noon today to take up their offer of a small share in the executive and elected legislature posts.

The three-party deal is to be ratified by leadership structures of those parties.

But soon after last night’s news conference it was clear the ANC and its allies would reject the offer, raising the prospect of major protests in the week new provincial and national governments are inaugurated and opening the way for a significant test of the 1996 constitution.

ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool said the party’s joint offer failed to recognise the ANC’s victory and was a recipe for instability in the province. He said the three-party coalition had been worked out before the election and the partners’ sole miscalculation had been to underestimate how well the ANC would do.

With some days to go before the first meeting of the newly-elected legislature on Tuesday, Mr Rasool said the ANC was ready to go into opposition. However, the ANC and its allies are hoping that pressure from a wide range of business, labour, civic and religious leaders will prompt the coalition towards “sanity and maturity”.

Mr Rasool said the ANC had not demanded the dominant share of the provincial cabinet.

The Congress of SA Trade Unions said any coalition which excluded the ANC would be met with mass action. “We won’t allow a situation where attempts are being made to exclude the ANC,” Cosatu provincial secretary Tony Ehrenreich said.

Reacting to Mr Rasool’s comments, Western Cape DP leader Henkie Bester questioned his claim that he had been willing to play a non-dominant role in a coalition government.

“He insisted that the ANC should have the dominant role, when in fact they won only 42% of the votes compared to the 58% of the opposition parties,” Mr Bester said.

“We nevertheless trust that the ANC will be a loyal opposition, and that their Cosatu partners will not undermine the commitment which all South Africa’s voters showed to democracy and due process during the election.”

New NP leader Gerald Morkel, who the three parties have agreed to support as Premier candidate, said the new government had vowed that within 100 days of the first sitting of the legislature it would set specific goals of service delivery.

The coalition government would draw up measurable goals benefiting “particularly the poorest of the poor and those disadvantaged by poverty, inferior education, inadequate education and poor health.”

The new coalition was committed to greater community involvement and improved communication between the provincial government and people at all levels.

Michael Louw, leader of the provincial ACDP, its sole representative in the legislature and guaranteed a cabinet post, said it was misinterpretation that his party had insisted it would participate in a coalition only if it included the ANC.

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Coalition could make W Cape ‘unstable’

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

THE provincial coalition government formed last night between the three parties with the least votes in the Western Cape is likely to be fragile, and the consequence of its formation could be an unstable province.

This emerged during a talk held at the Idasa offices last night, at which ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool said his party would now have to consider what form of opposition it would have to take towards the NNK, DP and ACDP coalition government.

Richard Calland of Idasa pointed out that the Constitution was silent on the procedures to follow when building a coalition government at a provincial level, and said that there was no precedent for doing so in South Africa’s short democratic history.

However, in other countries where coalitions had been formed that did not have the support of the majority of voters, the coalitions produced social and political instability.

Such coalition governments quite often dissolved soon after forming. This could, in some instances, lead to another election, he said.

Research done by Sean Jacobs of Idasa showed that the three largest parties in the Western Cape, the ANC, the NNK and the DP together received more than 92% of the vote. Each of them represented a sizeable, distinct and identifiable constituency, so excluding any of them from a provincial coalition government would effectively deny representation to that constituency.

Referring to the ANC’s short meeting with the other three parties on Tuesday, Rasool said last night that the ANC had not addressed the issue of premiership, nor had it asked for any dominant role in any possible inclusive government. It had merely raised the question of the kind of principles that should guide coalition formation in the province.

Before that meeting, however, Rasool had tried six times since last Thursday — when the first results started showing an ANC lead in the province — to get hold of NNK provincial leader Gerald Morkel. None of his phone messages were answered, Rasool said.

He said that although the other parties were forming their coalition as soon as possible in an attempt to secure the discussion, the ANC was loath to allow that.

“But if the matter is closed, the ANC is realistic enough to know what role it will have to take on. And if the ANC has to go into opposition mode, we will now have to decide what form it will take.”
Corruption spectre stalks Abe Williams

New probe gets under way

Further investigations have been launched by the Office for Serious Economic Offences (Oseo) into the finances of the West Coast Development Fund, once controlled by New National Party politician Abe Williams.

Mr Williams, who was health and welfare minister during the NP's participation in the government of national unity, returns to the next parliament for the NP.

The new investigations follow a meeting with Mr Williams more than a month ago at which he was given an opportunity to "put his side of the story".

Tommy Prins, of Oseo's Cape Town office, said: "There are a couple of outstanding things to follow up, which emerged from our discussion with Mr Williams and others."

A report would be prepared once these secondary inquiries had been dealt with.

The protracted and complex probe, involving masses of bank documents, was launched in 1996 and focused on the "flow of funds" in the West Coast Development Fund controlled by Mr Williams.

Mr Williams, who has always insisted he is innocent, resigned as a minister in the Government of National Unity after Oseo raided his Pretoria and Cape Town homes.

The probe stemmed from - though is not linked to - another Oseo investigation into the controversial multi-million rand pension payout contract awarded to a company, Niseco, which was later found to be incapable of matching the tender conditions.

This investigation is also virtually complete - the only outstanding element is an auditor's report - and could lead to corruption charges against officials in the Western Cape provincial administration.

The Niseco probe unearthed documentation which prompted the investigation into Mr Williams.

Among the ramifications of the Oseo investigation is Mr Williams's decision to sue African National Congress Western Cape leader Ebrahim Rasool, who claimed that Mr Williams had been "declared a serious economic offender."

Mr Rasool was the provincial health and welfare MEC who signed the $250-million five-year Niseco tender in 1994 - on the advice of senior officials - but then led the charge to have it investigated and annulled when the company's inability to meet its obligations became apparent.

Niseco, which employed various former Cape Provincial Administration officials, was found in the Cape High Court to havewillfully misled the province by not disclosing that its computer software and other technology could not do the job it had been paid for. The company's application to annul the cancellation of the contract was dismissed in 1997.

Problems with the pension payout system were initially highlighted in 1996 by Democratic Party provincial leader Hennie Bester.

ANC MP Noel Williams said yesterday: "The Atlantis community wrote to the National Director of Public Prosecutions, Bulelani Ngxula, before the election, requesting clarity on whether Abe Williams was going to be charged or not. Mr Williams is number 10 on the New NP list and now stands to take up a seat in the National Assembly."

"In the interest of transparency and good governance, we believe that clarity should be provided before the inauguration of new members of parliament."

"The people of the Western Cape, and in particular the people of Atlantis, have a right to know whether Mr Williams is going to be criminally charged for corruption."
NNP-led Western Cape coalition snubs three minority parties

THE NNP, DP and ACDP will form a multi-party government (MPG) in the Western Cape, following failed attempts to bring the ANC into an "agreement that was acceptable to all parties."

Morkel said the three parties would share the 12 provincial cabinet seats but that the offer to the ANC - Safety and Security MEC, deputy speaker of the provincial legislature and the chair of the public accounts committee - would remain open until noon today.

Analysts have predicted that such a minority government would be unstable and lead to social tensions, since the majority party, which largely represents the poor and African communities, would be seen to be excluded from government.

Meanwhile, the Congress of SA Trade Unions (Cosatu) announced at a press briefing minutes before that mass action including strikes would definitely be on the cards to force the three parties to their "senses."

Cosatu regional secretary Tony Ehrenreich said minority parties could not govern without the ANC which achieved the majority vote - 18 seats of 42 - and represented the "marginalised."

The nature and timing of the mass action would be determined after discussions with business organisations also concerned about the exclusion of the ANC, as well as religious and other organisations later this week.

The ANC provincial executive committee is scheduled to meet today. Morkel said the "real test for democracy in South Africa is whether the ANC and its allies will accept an outcome that puts them in opposition, rather than in government."

The MPG partners would disclose neither the cabinet-sharing arrangement nor the names of MECs. Better said that an announcement would be made after the ANC had replied to the offer. Morkel said that a set of governing principles and a "log-jam breaking mechanism" had been agreed upon.

ANC leader Ibrahim Rasool has said that the offer of one seat to the party that attained majority seats was a "fig-leaf" designed to give the appearance of an inclusive government. He could not be reached for comment last night.

In response, Morkel said last night the offer was an "opening gambit".

ANC offered "fig-leaf"

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Coalition fever strikes

May you live in interesting times, says the famous Chinese proverb. And some provinces in South Africa clearly experience more interesting times than others.

With the election scarcely a thing of the past, the country is now firmly in the grip of coalition fever as parties frantically scurry from meeting to meeting in attempts to form governments, and outbid each other in two of the nine provinces.

But why do we need coalitions when one party is clearly ahead of the others in both provinces, and can such governments work in the South African context?

In our electoral system of proportional representation, a government can only be formed where a party or a coalition of parties manages to get more than 50 percent of the seats in a legislature – an aspect that may come into review in the years to come.

A party would have to secure at least 41 of the seats in an 80 member legislature in order to form a government. In such a scenario, even if all the other parties in the legislature concerned were to combine, they would only be able to muster 39 seats – not enough to form a government.

Where the gap between the party with the most votes and its closest rival is relatively large – say 41 percent of the seats to 10 percent of the seats – matters can be fairly straightforward.

The mayor party will then be able to pick and choose who its coalition partners should be. It might well go for its closest rival, or choose several of the smaller parties whose policies it feels it can live with.

But where there are two parties fighting for dominance with more or less the same levels of support, then matters become more interesting or complicated, depending on whether you are a political analyst or a politician.

Such is the case in KwaZulu-Natal and Western Cape. In Western Cape the African National Congress has 18 and the New National Party (NNP) 17 of the 42 seats – at least 22 seats are needed for a government to be formed.

In KwaZulu-Natal the ANC has 32 and the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) 34 of the 80 seats – at least 41 seats are needed to form a government.

Whichever party in these two provinces manages to secure more than 50 percent of the votes through a coalition with other parties will clearly be able to form a government.

Contrary to claims that democratic convention dictates that the party with the most votes should form the ruling coalition in such a scenario, it is the party that is able to secure the most seats – and therefore the cooperation and confidence of the other parties – that will rule.

But matters are never that simple.

The ANC has won a majority in Western Cape but opposition parties together have more seats, write Shaun Mackay and Chris Landberg.

A lot of horse trading lies ahead in both provinces. In KwaZulu-Natal the matter does not appear to be as vexed as it is in Western Cape. The two leading contenders, IFP and ANC, have already been cooperating in a government of national unity in Parliament and it should not be too difficult to extend this same relationship to the provincial level.

One positive spin-off of such a coalition will be more stability in a province that has seen much violence in the recent past.

In Western Cape we are likely to witness a lot of in-fighting, name-calling and balance-of-power manoeuvring for the foreseeable future. In that province matters are complicated by the fact that the NNP is desperately fighting for survival, it is trying to hang on to power, having lost much support throughout the country.

It seems to have come to the conclusion that its future lies not in collaboration with the dominant ANC, but with the minority parties.

It is convinced that it won’t do badly in this regard as it looks to be the senior partner – despite having fewer seats than the ANC – in the coalition that is beginning to gel.

And if the rules of the democratic game are adhered to, the parties must accept that no party can force another to go into a coalition with it – the process must be voluntary or the coalition is not likely to be stable or lasting.

But can a coalition which excludes the ANC work in the province?

Already the Congress of South African Trade Unions has threatened rolling mass action if the party is not included and this holds consequences for the stability of the province and of the coalition government.

Such mass action will severely constrain the ability of the government to deliver and this will inevitably impact on the ability of the coalition to govern and threaten its stability.

But even if the ANC were to go into such a coalition, there is likely to be immense competition between it and the NNP to be the dominant partner, the DP would be seen by the ANC to be playing the role of spoiler as it is likely to gang up with the ailing NNP either way the coalition will be a very uneasy and fractious one.

Coalition governments can work and can be good for governance if there is good cooperation between the parties.

They can mean that moderate policies emerge from a government that takes into account the needs of all people rather than that of one constituency because of the process of bargaining that is characteristic of a coalition government.

But where there are too many partners with too many contradictory demands, this can inject more uncertainty and instability into the coalition and slow down governance.

Whatever the outcome of the coalition negotiations, Western Cape politics in particular, and South African politics in general, are not likely to be dull in the future.

(The authors are policy analysts at the Centre for Policy Studies.)
MEDIA OFFER REJECTED

Coalition rift deepens

THE COALITION set to govern the Western Cape last night rejected Anglican Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane's offer to mediate in the dispute between it and the ANC, which wants a greater say in the provincial government. ANDRÉ KOOPMAN and CHRIS BATEMAN report.

Premier Gerald Morkel of the New National Party, Heinrich Bester of the Democratic Party and Michael Lous of the African Christian Democratic Party have rejected an African National Congress request that coalition talks start afresh — but they said they are prepared to discuss a "meaningful role" for the ANC in the provincial government.

The ANC obtained 16 seats, the NNP 17, the DP five and the ACDP and United Democratic Movement one each. Meanwhile, several high-profile business leaders, who do not want to be named, are involved in trying to break the impasse between the two groups. Alie Greenhain, the head of Business Cape, confirmed this yesterday at a media briefing held after a meeting between Cosatu and several business organisations. He refused to divulge details.

Another group of business people, the Pro-Democracy Alliance, is to hold a rally and protest march in the city today. The group is expected to hand a letter to Morkel registering "profound concern at the decision to form a political troika that is specifically intended to exclude the ANC from its rightful place in government."

"To exclude the party with the most votes in the Western Cape would lead to a "resurgence of racial polarisation, ostensibly condemned by all parties but covertly encouraged by the manner in which the NNP and DP chose to address the electorate," the group said in a statement.

The influential Western Cape Provincial Council of Churches has called a "leaders' meeting" this morning to examine the political impasse and to discuss ways of resolving possible tension which may arise.

"Archbishop Ndungane, who is visiting Germany, said yesterday he is deeply concerned that developments "could jeopardise the culture of tolerance that is needed in order to have effective governance in our province."

"Therefore I am offering to assist in the efforts under way to resolve the impasse that has emerged," he offered to fly back to South Africa within 24 hours.

Morkel, on behalf of the NNP, DP and ACDP, thanked the archbishop for his concern but said "communication between us and the ANC is proceeding and we do not think you have to inconvenience yourself to return."

In a letter to Morkel yesterday, ANC provincial leader Ibrahim Rasool formally rejected the troika's offer of one seat in the cabinet. In an appeal to Morkel, Rasool said now is the time for parties to do what is right and to consult the electorate. "It is not the time to be dogmatic, the electorate is bigger than us or our parties. Let us do what is right," he said.

Rasool reminded Morkel that the ANC and NNP share the coloured community constituency which stands in need of upliftment from poverty. The ANC represents, with you, the rural masses, and the ANC represents the African communities. This tells us that it is our historic mission to liberate these communities and unite them so that our people can have a place in the sun," Rasool said.

An exclusive NNP coalition with the DP, Rasool continued, will place the poor in a "relationship of compromise to the need to protect white privilege. The coalition needs to be inclusive so that the needs of all communities need to be held in balance and none is deemed dispensable."

Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry head Denis Skeate expressed concern over the exclusion of the ANC from the provincial government. He said the Western Cape legislature should be inclusive, stable and democratic.

"Our concern is Cosatu talking about rolling mass action. While it's their democratic right, it affects our business — of course we're not happy. If 42% of the people don't get represented in cabinet, how do you translate that back to the people without creating havoc?"

Cosatu provincial secretary Tony Shamiso said the troika was aimed at retaining white privilege at the expense of the poor. Cosatu is being forced to engage in mass action, he added.

Health MEC Peter Marais of the NNP yesterday described the coalition as being 18 months old. "It won..."
Row over city feast for MPs
Nat boycott threat

New National Party councillors are threatening to boycott a banquet being given by Cape Town mayor Nomathanda Mafeke to welcome new MPs to the city, because of the cost to ratepayers.

New NP councillors walked out of an executive committee meeting in the civic centre where the budget for Monday night's banquet was discussed behind closed doors. The Democratic Party has also objected to the costs, but has not taken a position on a boycott.

The banquet is part of the council's campaign to keep Parliament in Cape Town and will follow the swearing-in of new MPs in the House of Assembly on Monday.

The row comes amid controversy over the R47-million to be spent on the inauguration of Thabo Mbeki as president in Pretoria next Wednesday.

French champagne and South African wines will be served at an ethnic buffet for the inauguration.

The Government says R10-million of this money will come from private sponsors.

In Cape Town, the city council says the initial budgeted cost of the mayoral banquet, R590 000, has been trimmed to R390 000, with the council paying out between R30 000 to R50 000 and the rest coming from the private sector. About 1 200 guests have been invited.

Last year, Pretoria's mayor hosted a party at the opening of Parliament in Cape Town to woo support for Parliament to move to Pretoria.

At this week's executive committee meeting, New NP councillors, headed by Yusuf Wegge, argued that R31 000 was sufficient as the council's contribution to the function and that this amount had been approved in an earlier meeting.

'The New NP said taxpayers' money should not be squandered.

African National Congress councillors, headed by exco chairman Saleem Mowzer, proposed an amendment asking that R126 000 should be approved for the function.

After the walkout by the New NP councillors, ANC councillors were forced to stick to the budget of R81 000 because they needed a two-thirds majority to approve the increase to R126 000.

Council spokeswoman Leonora de Souza said the council would actually spend between R80 000 and R85 000.

The rest of the money, she said, would come from Shell SA and other sponsors who had "bought" tables.

Cape Metropolitan Council executive committee chairman Pierre Uys said the city of Cape Town had written asking for financial help earlier this week. The metro council is headed by the New NP.

Mr Uys said the metro council had replied with a request for more details. There has been no response to this request so far.
Pressure mounts on Western Cape coalition partners not to go it alone

Linda Ensor

Business robberies for ANC
CURRENT AFFAIRS - ELECTION ANALYSIS

WESTERN CAPE

UNTANGLING AN ELECTORAL CONUNDRUM

It's not too late to give the ANC its due

Nothing underscored the Western Cape’s emerging ethnic hierarchy more than the result that gave the province to the ANC with 42% of the vote — but immediately triggered coalition talks to secure continued NNP rule. Not that the NNP, with 17 seats to the ANC’s 18, is monolithic. While its leader, Gerrard Van Der Byl, favours an alliance with the four-seat DP and the ACDP (one seat), more independent-minded legislators like Peter Marais are prepared to do business with the ANC.

The provincial legislature has 42 seats, 22 are required to elect the premier. Apart from the major players, the UDM (one seat) may also be drawn into coalition.

On Monday the federal congress of the NNP met in Stellenbosch to look for a way ahead. Since the DP had obdurately sworn it would never enter into coalition with the ANC, its provincial leader, Henke Bester, was known to favour the NNP option — in essence locking out the ANC from a deserved portion of regional power.

The parties’ dilemma was crisply put by editor Ryland Fisher in Monday’s Cape Times: “We can no longer afford to make African people uncomfortable in the Western Cape. We cannot pretend that this province still has coloured labour preferences and laws that discriminate against Africans. This is their home and we have to make them feel at home.”

Feeling the chill of exclusion, the ANC’s Ebrahim Rasool spoke of a ‘betrayal’ of the mandate conferred on his party by the black townships. He warned of possible mass action, which would involve Cosatu, if the ANC was forced into opposition.

In 1994, the NNP won 53.3% of the province’s votes. A unity government prevailed until last January, when some devious manipulation of the new provincial constitution by former premier Henk Kriel saw the ANC excluded from cabinet and the formation of a pact between the NNP and the DP. Rasool resented this.

Many saw the exclusion as a gang-up of whites and coloureds against Africans. A popular view in local talkshows and letters to the editor is that coloureds “belong” in the Cape and that Africans —pushed by the impoverishment of the Transkei and Ciskei — are interlopers.

The NNP collapse was primarily the consequence of complacency — the belief that the coloured vote would stay within the fold. However, weak leaders have tarnished the NNP’s prospects, perhaps irretrievably. In addition, the departure of FW de Klerk in September 1997 deprived the NNP of a figure who had proven popular on the Cape Flats in 1994.

A spreading unease over the NNP’s capabilities saw a substantial drop in coloured support in this month’s election. In 1994, the party drew about 1.1 million votes — a figure that fell to 600,000 this time. Since the coloured people are in the provincial majority — 58.4% as against 23.6% white and 17.1% African — an initial analysis of the figures suggests that Rasool managed to crack the NNP’s hold on this community, though apathy played a part.

Thus Morkel’s assumption that he could count on “his” people was shattered.

From a rational perspective, this is a good thing. The Western Cape has for too

long been perceived as an insular region of white and colouredelitism and exclusion. Now it can be seen for what it is, and the appropriate recognition of the principle of non-racialism should be a remuneration of such an achievement. A trim, right-angled NNP alliance would begin the long-promised destruction of the ANC by non-exclusive provincial governance. The NNP, which has

failed in the Western Cape in the past, would be the eyes of the people. The national government might as well have been eliminated.
Multiparty deal on the cards

JERMAINE CRAIG AND ESTELLE RANDALL

The Western Cape is on the brink of a new multiparty government that will include the African National Congress following talks between all the parties last night.

The coalition of the New National Party, Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party met the ANC and United Democratic Movement to discuss how to establish a representative government.

ANC Western Cape leader Ebrahim Rasool, Justice Minister Dullah Omar, provincial DP leader Hennie Bester, provincial ACDP leader Michael Louis and the UDM's Malizole Diko were among those who attended the talks, which started at 6pm and ended at about 10pm last night.

An upbeat Mr Moroke said he was positive that a multiparty deal would be struck under which all the major parties in the province would be represented in the government.

He said the talks would continue today. "We would not be continuing these talks if we did not believe that progress was being made," he said.

He said the meeting was "constructive."

"(Although) we have not yet reached finality, we put certain positions on the table and by tomorrow, if the ANC can get back to us, we can have another meeting."

Mr Rasool said the principles of the negotiations had to be ironed out before cabinet positions could be finalised.

Sources said the talks took place in a jovial and friendly atmosphere.

Earlier Mr Moroke said the NNP, DP-ACDP coalition's initial offer of one provincial cabinet post to the ANC was negotiable.

Informed sources said last night that the NNP was likely to want five cabinet posts and would be prepared to offer three out of a total of 10 cabinet voting seats to the ANC.

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Coalition calls for principle of inclusivity at national level...
Party grapple with exclusion from Western Cape coalition
Resident Nelson Mandela cut short a visit to KwaZulu-Natal and jetted into Cape Town yesterday afternoon to lead an 11th-hour effort to rescue coalition talks in the Western Cape and avert “rolling mass action” set to begin tomorrow.

Mandela’s move came as the National Party, Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party coalition that was planning to run the province fell apart with the ACDP withdrawing last night. The NF and DP still have enough MPs to form a government between them, but their majority has been trimmed to a slim two seats in the 42-seat legislature.

The ANC meanwhile walked out of talks aimed at including it in the government by giving it three provincial Cabinet posts.

The provincial government has to be formed by Tuesday when provincial MPs will be sworn in and will have to elect a premier.

Mandela is expected to convene fresh talks between all the province’s parties after Justice Minister Dullah Omar and religious leaders urged him to intervene to prevent the conflict from escalating to confrontation on Cape Town’s streets.

If Mandela’s bid to forge a fresh pact fails, the Western Cape could experience mass action on a scale last seen in the dying days of apartheid, with Cosatu vowing to take to the streets to back up the ANC.

Ebrahim Rasool, the ANC Western Cape leader, said yesterday the ANC would “not be held hostage to the unstated ambitions and aspirations” of the NF-led coalition. The ANC was offered three Cabinet seats in the Western Cape, but before this could even be discussed the talks bogged down over the question of an inclusive government.

National Party leader Gerrit Gouw said last night that he was still open to talks with the ANC. “I spoke to Rasool earlier today and I am waiting for another call. The lines are open 24 hours a day,” he said.

DP negotiator Helen Zille said the provincial ACDP had capitulated to pressure from the ANC.

Cosatu’s “mass-action threat prompted senior Cape businessmen — including BoE chairman Bill McAdam, Pepkor chairman Christo Wiese and Cape Town Chamber of Commerce and Industry chairman Dennis Skeate — to urge the parties to break the deadlock in the interests of the regional economy. But their intervention failed after the ANC rejected the compromise deal.

Presidential spokesman Parks Makana said religious leaders mediating in the Western Cape talks had yesterday asked Mandela to intervene. Omar, a member of the ANC’s Western Cape negotiating team, confirmed he would be meeting Mandela on his arrival in Cape Town.

Meanwhile, in KwaZulu-Natal, the ANC and Inkatha have agreed on a 50-50 split in the provincial Cabinet, but are yet to agree on who will be premier of the province.
ANC pullout settles
W Cape government
New NP, DP coalition to be sworn in tomorrow

CLIVE SAWYER AND TYRONE SEALE

The African National Congress's decision to go into opposition in the Western Cape has made little difference to the coalition's preparations for tomorrow's swearing-in of the provincial legislature.

Today, just before the ANC's provincial working committee announced its decision, New National Party leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk said his party's working coalition with the Democratic Party made it possible for the two partners to plan tomorrow's inauguration regardless of the ANC.

He said the ANC had been made a firm and fair offer of three seats in the provincial cabinet and the coalition partners would not back on their word.

"This invitation is not linked to inclusivity in other provinces or at other levels of government. We strongly hope the ANC will, for its own sake and the sake of the province, accept the invitation."

Earlier, DP national leader Tony Leon said the New NP-DP offer was genuine, even though the DP had been offered no seats by the ANC in provincial legislatures elsewhere or in Parliament.

The decision by the ANC provincial working committee, although officially still leaving the door open for an eve-of-inauguration resolution of the ANC's impasse with the New NP and DP, is believed to be based on frustration at the conduct of their New NP-DP negotiations partners.

While the New NP and DP have rejected the ANC's allegation that talks are deadlocked and await the ANC's response to their offer, the provincial working committee decision means that a New NP-DP government will be sworn in tomorrow, with the ANC, African Christian Democratic Party and United Democratic Movement on opposition benches.

Ebrahim Rasool, leader of the opposition in the provincial legislature, will head an 18-member caucus against the 22 seats mustered by the New NP-DP coalition.

The coalition government will be forced to fight on several fronts.

Ranged against it will be the ANC and its allies, which will be mobilised against the coalition which has a vote share more than 8% greater than the ANC's.

Its other critics in the legislature will be the UDM and the ACDP, which withdrew from the multiparty government, apparently under pressure from the ANC.

With a day to go before the newly-elected legislature meets for the first time, the New NP-DP partnership and the ANC could not even agree on whether there was a deadlock.

The ANC emerged from Friday's talks to declare a deadlock, in spite of the others believing the way could be open for further progress.

The official New NP-DP line today was that they awaited a reply from the ANC to their offer of three cabinet seats which would make the provincial government more inclusive.
No mediation for stalled coalition

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

TENSION is mounting in the Western Cape as the three parties involved in the stand-off about a multi-party government await each other’s next move.

By late last night, it seemed the issue was still far from resolved, though the parties hope — but do not absolutely need — a resolution by tomorrow morning, when the provincial legislature will sit for the first time to choose a premier.

The NNP and the DP said that despite ANC statements at the weekend to the effect that talks had deadlocked, this is not the case and they are awaiting a response from the ANC to their offer of three cabinet positions.

The ANC’s provincial deputy secretary, Marius Fransman, last night said the ANC was never offered the three positions. He said they could not react to offers made through the media.

Despite the obvious stalemate, parties involved denied that a mediator is needed to resolve the most important post-election issue yet. Both NNP leader Gerald Moore and DP leader Henne Bester met Anglican Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane yesterday, at Ndungane’s request. Ndungane is prepared to act as mediator. Moore and Bester both said their separate meetings had been amicable, friendly and relaxed and both were able to make their views understood.

Moore told the Cape Times last night. “The archbishop assured me that he was only speaking to me in his pastoral role and because of his concern for the people of the province. He agreed that we have to find a way to educate people about democracy and he understands that our decisions so far have been democratic. Moore said he was waiting for ANC provincial leader Evraham Rasool to come back to him.

“The ball is in his court now, but we can’t leave it (the final decision) until later than tomorrow evening. We can’t tolerate these delaying tactics any longer.”

He said perhaps the ANC itself was divided about which route to take. Reports that President Nelson Mandela had cut short a trip to KwaZulu-Natal to come the Western Cape’s rescue could not be confirmed yesterday. Mandela was not at a meeting of the ANC’s provincial working committee yesterday, nor did he meet the leaders of the other parties.

Fransman said the ANC is still hoping to “move away from the inclusivity precondition”, referring to the NNP and DP’s request that if inclusivity is the desired route in the Western Cape, it would also have to be exercised in other provinces.

Fransman said the ANC wants to see the multi-party government, as it stands now, disbanded and for talks to start from a neutral position.

Meanwhile, the ACDP, which was an initial tentative partner in the coalition, withdrew from the process this weekend. Provincial ACDP chairperson Kevin Southgate said last night that his party was happy to have been able to bring the parties together to talk. Now the ACDP will “wait and see what happens.”
Angry protesters in Tyumen provincial buildings as New Net-Demo. Joffredo elected premier.

ANC gives no ground as de Morsi elected.
ANC rejects Western Cape offer of three seats

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The African National Congress (ANC) has rejected the offer of three Western Cape cabinet seats made by the New National Party (NNP) and Democratic Party (DP) coalition, but both sides say the door is still open to further talks.

The ANC, now the official opposition in the Cape, will participate in a mass demonstration of the Congress of SA Trade Unions (Cosatu) at the provincial legislature today to protest against its exclusion from the government. About 2 000 people are expected to attend.

Members of the provincial legislature will be sworn in and Gerald Morkel will be re-elected as premier. However, Morkel said he would delay announcing his cabinet until Friday to give talks with the ANC a chance.

Provincial ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool said further talks were only possible on the basis of agreed-upon principles of the multiparty government. Until this was sorted out, there could be no haggling over seats. It would serve the ANC no purpose to accept three cabinet seats but be prevented from delivering because of the government’s lack of commitment to transformation.

The “unholy alliance” formed to oppose the ANC would also have to disband so each party had equal status.

He was concerned about a provincial government designed to oppose national government, maintain minority privileges and prevent transformation.

In reply, DP provincial leader Hennie Bester accused the ANC of breaking off “good faith” negotiations when it became clear it could not wrest control of the province. The ANC’s principles for governance were much the same as those of the DP and NNP, he said.

Business Cape could not reach consensus on Cosatu’s protest so Cosatu members will have to negotiate with their employers over the time taken by members for the demonstration.
ANC opposition in Western Cape

The African National Congress in Western Cape has opted for an opposition role in the provincial legislature, provincial leader Mr. Ebrahim Rasool announced yesterday.

Addressing a media conference at the provincial legislature in Cape Town, he described the coalition between the New National Party and Democratic Party – which is set to form the provincial government today – as an “unholy” alliance.

Rasool said he had only formally received the NNP-DP alliance’s offer of three seats in the 12-member provincial cabinet yesterday afternoon, on his way to Parliament to witness ANC leader Thabo Mbeki’s election as South Africa’s new President.

However, the ANC would have rejected the offer in any case.

As the party which had obtained the most votes in Western Cape, it had needed to assess whether it should cross the “thin line” between the “inhumane” with which it had acted throughout the coalition negotiations and the “inhumanity” which the alliance’s offer amounted to.

Despite the fact that South Africa was five years into its new democracy, “the Western Cape remains a bastion of racial polarisation and segregation”, Rasool said.

“Talks between the ANC and the ‘so-called coalition’ had been scuttled by the NNP and DP’s ‘intransigence and their insistence on national inclusivity’.”

“As an opposition party acting within the framework of the Constitution, the ANC will wage a relentless battle for the achievement of a Western Cape which sees itself as part of South Africa, a Western Cape which participates in nation-building and transformation,” he said.

Asked about the planned mass action by the Congress of South African Trade Unions today to protest against the ANC’s exclusion, Rasool said South Africa’s Constitution allowed for people to express their views.

The NNP and DP, who between them have 22 of the 42 seats in the provincial legislature, are set to elect the premiership and the speaker when the body convenes this morning.

These are likely to remain NNP Western Cape leader Mr. Gerald Morkel and NNP member Mr. Willem Doman respectively.

The ANC has 18 MPLs and the African Christian Democratic Party and United Democratic Movement one each. – Sapa
Mayor welcomes MPs to city with litany of woes

KARIN SCHIMKE

The possibility of Cape Town losing Parliament to Pretoria came sharply into focus last night when the city's first citizen, mayor Nomaindia Mbekto, welcomed parliamentarians with a litany of the Western Cape's most embarrassing characteristics.

Addressing president-elect Thabo Mbeki, members of Parliament and other guests, including foreign media, Mbekto said the Western Cape is known for its low level of tolerance. She also mentioned the gang violence, drive-by shootings, the killing of children and the abuse of women.

"I know I might have spoiled your appetite," Mbekto told the audience, "but these things need to be said."

Much of her speech appeared to be aimed at recent developments within the provincial government whereby the New National Party and the Democratic Party have formed a coalition.

This has left the ANC — which obtained the most votes in the province — to take up an opposition role.

"Our attitude has long been one of 'as long as it's not in my backyard it's not my problem.' Many of our decisions have been racially based and this has cost us dearly."

Mbekto said that, in light of all this, she wanted to assure her guests "this homeland is also slowly moving towards South Africa."

She told the Cape Times afterwards that she had merely wanted to tell the truth. "I also wanted to remind MPs not to forget about us — not to think about us as a home-land because of our problems but to help us."

Mbekto, who had a severe bout of flu, did not make a speech and left soon after Mbekto's address.
Masses to protest as coalition sets up house

CHRIS RATEMAN

THE ANC — citing an absence of “principles of government” and its “humiliating” treatment by the NNP/DP alliance during negotiations — last night rejected an offer of three seats in the Western Cape executive and chose to continue as the opposition in the province.

Just hours earlier, Cosatu regional secretary Tony Ehrenreich announced that “thousands” would march in protest to the legislature in Cape Town today.

The South African Democratic Union of Teachers called on its members to strike unless premier-elect Gerald Morkel “came to his senses.” It is expected hundreds of teachers will join the lunch-time march from the Grand Parade.

Ehrenreich said Cosatu reserved the right to define “rolling mass action” once the march was over.

Business Cape, umbrella of major local business organisations, expressed alarm at the threat of rolling mass action. Its president, Denis Skeate, said the principle of “no work, no pay” would apply and that members reserved the right to take disciplinary action.

Morkel said he would name his executive in his opening speech in the legislature on Friday.

This morning brings the elections of the premier, speaker and deputy speaker and the swearing-in of legislators — which will end as the protest reaches its height.

Rasool said yesterday the ANC’s point of departure was “whether a diverse group can agree on a minimum set of principles for government — without (which) the allocation of posts becomes futile.”

As the majority party in Western Cape, the ANC had not been properly consulted. Instead, negotiations had centred around the ANC and an “unholy alliance.”

They sacrificed the broader interests of Western Cape people on the altar of maintaining minority privileges,” Rasool said.

Morkel said the NNP/DP coalition had been forged only when the ANC “couldn’t put one together.” “If they’re so serious about serving the people, then why not accept three posts?” he said.

He and DP provincial leader Hennie Bester urged the ANC to be a “loyal opposition.” Bester claimed an unambiguous offer of three posts had been made to the ANC on Friday.

“Starting off (its term in opposition) by taking to the streets is not the way in which racial harmony and stability will be fostered.”
City protests against coalition

Priscilla Singh

THOUSANDS of ANC protesters from various organisations gathered outside the Western Cape legislature building on Wale Street at midday yesterday to show their "disgust" at Dr. M. Makel being re-elected as Premier.

At first there was a small gathering of people waving flags and chanting struggle anthems, then the numbers swelled into the thousands as ANC supporters from Cosatu, Sedu, Cosas and the SACP began arriving.

Slogans such as "One Rasool, One Premier" and "Makel, your two-year guarantee is over" were heard several blocks away.

Belinda Landwee of Guguulethu said she came to the protest to show the NNP that "we have won the province" and he (Makel) had no right to be in power.

Her colleague in turn shouted "Makel, he can spoil the Cape in shape!"

The protest threatened to turn violent at one stage when protestors tried to storm the entrance of the legislature building, but continued peacefully after calls for calm and discipline from ANC leaders belting out orders from a makeshift stage on a truck.

A barrier of ANC marshals was then positioned between the crowd and police to prevent further altercations.

"The vibe, however, was generally upbeat and when Brenda Fassie's hit "Ndinhlulela" was played, the crowd broke into the gyrating and foot-stomping seen only last week when it emerged that the ANC..."
BACK ON THE BLOCK: Western Cape Province struck a blow to the traditional ANC 'flexibility', which has been one of the key elements of the party's strategy in the past. This move is seen as a significant development in the ongoing struggle between the ANC and the provincial government.

The Western Cape provincial government has announced that it will not be renewing the contract with the ANC for the provision of health services in the province. This decision is likely to have far-reaching implications for the health sector in the region.

The move is seen as a significant challenge to the ANC's ability to deliver on its promises to the people of the Western Cape. The party has been under pressure to deliver on its promises, particularly in the area of healthcare, and this decision is likely to exacerbate these challenges.

The Western Cape provincial government has stated that it will be looking for alternative providers to take over the services currently provided by the ANC. This decision is likely to have a significant impact on the ANC, which has been a major player in the province's health sector.

The move is also seen as a significant development in the ongoing struggle between the ANC and the provincial government. The Western Cape government has been a vocal critic of the ANC's approach to governance, and this decision is likely to be seen as a further indication of the government's commitment to delivering on its promises to the people of the province.

The Western Cape government's decision is likely to have far-reaching implications for the health sector in the region. The ANC will be looking to challenge this decision in court, and it is likely that the matter will be fought out in the legal system.

In conclusion, the Western Cape government's decision not to renew the contract with the ANC is seen as a significant development in the ongoing struggle between the ANC and the provincial government. The move is likely to have far-reaching implications for the health sector in the region, and it is likely that the matter will be fought out in the legal system.

A CONSTITUTIONAL COURT MODEL OF THE NNP

CHRIE BARTMAN

Prompts ANC walk-out

Re-election of Morkel

(263)
WESTERN CAPE POLITICS

BRINKSMANSHIP
BUT NO DEAL

ANC rejects revised offer

The parties contesting leadership and power in the Western Cape had until Tuesday morning (June 15) to decide, in essence, whether the ANC (with 18 seats) would go into opposition or accept the three provincial cabinet positions on offer from the DP-NNP coalition. That was when the term of the old legislature ended.

Late on Monday, the ANC's provincial leader, Ebrahim Rasool, accompanied by Justice Minister Dullah Omar, spurned the offer of three seats in the cabinet and promised to fight from the opposition benches. Rasool is firm that the offer, in fact, had never been formally made. He clearly blamed the DP-NNP coalition for scuttling exploratory talks on co-operation, and said he would be in support of mass action to begin the next day with a Cosatu march in the city. The teachers' union, SADTU, would be there too.

Between them, the DP (five seats) and NNP (17) had just enough votes to elect the NNP's Gerald Morkel as the provincial premier, even though they had lost the support of the one-seat ACDP in the week after the election, while the UDM remained in the background, with its one seat.

It was widely felt that the ACDP had been pressured by the ANC to bow out.

In normal political situations, coalitions, whereby minority parties outvote larger ones, do not stir the kind of controversy that erupted over the Western Cape result. The threats of rolling mass action, strikes, and even of making the province ungovernable, led the DP to accuse the ANC of bullying tactics, of attempting to use blackmail to achieve what it had been unable to do at the ballot box.

Even Anglican Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane offered mediation, quite as if the future of the entire country rested on the ANC not getting its way in the Cape. Cartoonists lampooned the province as an undemocratic remnant of the past.

There were 10 cabinet seats at stake. The NNP was insisting on no fewer than five, and the initial, scarcely conciliatory offer of one ministry to the ANC — the poisoned chalice of Safety & Security, at that — was instantly spurned.

But whether or not Rasool believes the revised offer was equally dross — he insists that principles of governance need to be agreed on before seats can be allocated — it was relayed directly from DP national leader Tony Leon, despite the fact that it would slash the DP's representation in the Western Cape cabinet.

As Leon put it at the weekend: "The ANC does not have an automatic right to be included in government in the Western Cape. They did not win the majority of votes and if they were indeed the majority party, then they would be able to proceed with the formation of an ANC government. (However) the DP believes that any offer made to the ANC has to be meaningful and therefore it was perfectly acceptable to increase the number of seats offered from one to three."

But that was "the bottom line and if the ANC is not prepared to accept the last offer of three seats, then it should get ready to be the loyal opposition party." The ANC will take a version of that route.

The offer of three ministries was in reality a generous one — though for much of the week Rasool had been suggesting that the provincial ANC should by rights be forming the regional government, despite achieving a plurality of only 42%.

On Monday, the formal ANC statement of its position was blunt: "The objection is to the process itself and the danger of a provincial government designed specifically to oppose national government. This coalition is based upon a determination to maintain minority privileges and to prevent transformation. This puts the Western Cape on the road to instability, confrontation and racial polarisation."

President Thabo Mbeki, according to Omar, had been informed of the situation but would not intervene, despite his concern. Various Cape business figures share that concern. They made attempts to persuade the DP-NNP coalition of the need for inclusivity — though Morkel rebuffed this by stating that, if so, the principle should apply nationally.

For business, for the Cape ANC to be talking of mass action at this stage in SA's affairs is an unpalatable prospect.

Peter Wijolph
The Western Cape cabinet announced today includes eight New National Party and four Democratic Party members, with the appointment of Helen Zille as education minister certain to cause tension between the government and the SA Democratic Teachers’ Union.

Today the union said it would “have to work with Ms Zille in the interests of education”.

Earlier, Sadtu vowed to mobilise its several thousand members for mass action should Ms Zille be appointed, with bad blood between the two dating back to the Grove Primary court case in which the school defended its right to appoint teachers in spite of Government policy on redeployments.

Ms Zille was a prominent protagonist of the school’s cause.

But today provincial Sadtu secretary Don Pasquallie said “We hope that the policies she puts in place are in the interests of everyone, but especially the still-disadvantaged.”

He said the union’s provincial executive committee would meet this weekend to formulate a response to Ms Zille’s invitation to a “working relationship” with the union.

Although she was elected to the legislature on the DP list, Ms Zille has been appointed as an “outside expert” in terms of the provincial constitution, meaning she will give up her seat as an MPL but be entitled to take part in the proceedings of the legislature.

Premier Gerald Morkel has done the same with Leon Markovitz, MEC for finance, development planning and gam-

blng, who was elected on the New NP list.

This means Ms Zille and Mr Markovitz will be cabinet ministers entitled to participate in the legislature but without a vote.

The vacancies created by their seats will be taken by a DP member and a New NP member.

Mr Morkel has given New NP colleague Peter Marais, until now minister of health and welfare, the post of social services with additional responsibility for a new “director of poverty eradication.”

Responsibility for this directorate will be shared with Freda Adams, who stays on as minister in the Premier’s office, also responsible for gender equality, youth, the disabled, and transformation throughout the provincial administration.

Cecil Herdtien stays on as housing minister, and Mark Wiley remains community safety MEC, with the sport and recreation portfolios added to his duties.

Pet Meyer keeps the transport portfolio to which public works is to be added.

The new portfolios given to Mr Markovitz and Mr Meyer were previously held by Michael Louis of the African Christian Democratic Party, which withdrew from a coalition plan with the New NP and DP.

Pierre Uys, former head of the Cape Metropolitan Council’s executive committee, becomes provincial minister of local government, a post last held full time by Natturned ANC member Patrick McKenzie.

Former Western Cape agricultural union head Gerrit van Rensburg becomes minister of agriculture in the place of Lampie Pick.

DP leader Hennie Bester becomes minister of economic affairs, tourism and asset management, the third part of this portfolio being inherited from Mr Louis. His party colleague, Glen Adams, becomes minister of environmental and cultural affairs.

Nie Koornhof, who was provincial minister of education before defecting from the New NP to the DP, becomes minister of health, taking over part of Mr Marais’s previous portfolio.

The DP has nominated Alan Winde to fill the vacancy created by Ms Zille’s resignation as an MPL.

Delegates to the National Council of Provinces are to include the DP’s Antoinette Versfeld, formerly of the New NP, and the New NP’s Nels Ackermann.

Mr Morkel said he had offered the chairmanship of the education standing committee to Archie Lewis of the United Democratic Movement, a former Sadtu leader.

Mr Morkel said he had also tried to reach African National Congress provincial leader Ibrahim Rasool to offer the ANC the post of head of the provincial public accounts committee. This watchdog post is traditionally held by the main opposition party. Most likely candidate, should the offer be accepted, would be the ANC’s Thamsanqa Maseup.
Horse trading bungled from the very first move

For a lesson on how not to conduct a process of political dealmaking, we need to look no further than the failed talks in the Western Cape, writes Cape editor Alan Fine

It began, serenely enough, in the latter days of the election campaign and immediately thereafter. The ANC, which eventually won only 42% of the vote, went into an alliance with the DP (12%). But because that would have made the DP a junior partner and consequently the “center of power” promise, it was dead in the water.

An initial get-together of the NNP (38.4%) and DP had more potential, and so it transpired. The two apparently had every intention of offering the ANC a junior partnership, for it was the right reason. But they also brought in the 2.8% African Christian Democratic Party, to seek a larger and more secure anti-ANC grouping. The idea was always to be more inclusive (the more generous interpretation), or to bring in a couple of token black African faces (the more cynical view).

The first official move of this new alliance was also its biggest tactical blunder — which seriously damaged the prospects for an inclusive cabinet. It offered the ANC a minority single MEC post — the constitutionally powerless safety and security portfolio.

Unfortunately, the ANC took it as a gross insult. A source in the NNP/DP/ACDP talks says the one-seat offer was at the insistence of the ANC. There were those, such as the NNP's Peter Marais, who strenuously opposed this destructive approach. So, apparently, did national NNP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk. He, though, was in a weak position, having led his party into the wilderness everywhere except in the Western Cape.

The headline Gerald Morbel view (some believe it was formulated by provincial director-general Niel Barnard) prevailed.

It is now unloosely acknowledged by some in the DP and NNP that the once-seat offer was a mistake. It is not altogether clear, however, why it was felt necessary to humour the marginal ACDP on this score. However, they did, and — with the aid of the ANC's own unchecked response — plunged the negotiations into a damaging phase of posturing.

The response bore little relation to the sophisticated, calculated ANC negotiating tradition witnessed at the World Trade Centre during the now SA's formative years. The first knee jerk was the threat of mass action by ally Cosatu. That threat completely undermined the efforts of the more “enlightened” Marais group in the NNP, because the others obviously took offence at now having to negotiate with this gun to their heads.

The ANC also sent Trevor Manuel off to mobilise the local business community, and other party leaders dealt with the religious and other interest groups in the province. It was not so much the membering that was problematic, but the high-profile way it was done. Business leaders, who might have been able to do an effective mediating job quietly and behind the scenes, were made to look like ANC emissaries.

The individual most humiliated by the ANC was the well-meaning Archbishop Nongenkosile Ngethe. He had been approached by the ANC to offer his services as an honest broker, and cut short an overseas holiday to this end. Despite his offer initially being politely rebuffed by the NNP and DP, perhaps naively, he returned home.

In the meantime, the ANC had been promoting him as a mediator — trying to win the moral high ground. It was the ANC that published his offer to mediate. But no honest broker can do that job if he is presented as the agent of one of the contending parties.

The ANC committed a host of other tactical errors. On being subsequently offered by the DP and NNP a more considered three MEC posts — this might have been negotiable up to a very reasonable level — provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool refused to discuss it, saying instead that he wanted to "go back to first principles."

Those "principles" included such matters as a demand for proportional representation in the 15-member cabinet (which would have meant, say, a 5.5% division between the ANC, NNP and DP) plus an ANC premiership as the largest party.

The tactical error in this is that there is no principle involved. This is politics, and it was a matter of horse trading based on the relative strength of the parties. Also, during negotiations on a provincial constitution two years ago, the ANC rejected a DP proposal for proportional representation in cabinet.

Its "principles" changed after it failed to win a hoped-for provincial majority in the elections.

With the NNP and DP comprising a 51% coalition, the ANC's bargaining power was based on no more than the fact that an inclusive government offers greater stability and nation-building potential.

Instead, by making an artificial principle of it, the ANC positively invited the NNP and DP to say "OK, if this is your principle, let us enforce it as KonZulu-Nahal and the national government."

Which is what they did — causing the negotiations to collapse finally. Which means that the province's racial divisions will be exacerbated, and Cosatu will no doubt have some fun on the streets.

The only positive feature is that — aside from the province's peculiar social dynamics — it does no harm for the almost all-powerful ANC to play the traditional opposition role.
Cosas vows to 'make a mess' in Cape Town

THE Congress of South African Students (Cosas) reaffirmed its commitment yesterday to making the Western Cape "ungovernable" if the African National Congress is not given control of the province.

Cosas provincial deputy chairman Mr Mashabongwe Lwana told Sapa from ANC offices in Athlone that they were holding meetings yesterday and today with students to discuss the coalition impasse.

Asked if "burning" of the city of Cape Town would form part of "ungovernability", Lwana replied "We will make a mess," but declined to elaborate.

The meetings would enable students to air their views about the formation of provincial coalition government, Lwana said.

"After these two gatherings Western Cape students will be in a position to come up with the way forward," Lwana said.

Students would embark on rolling mass action until Premier Gerald Morkel was forced to leave office, he said.

He said students knew who they elected to become provincial premier and it was Ebrahim Rasool. The ANC announced on Monday that it would be an opposition party to the National Party and Democratic Party coalition provincial government — Sapa.

[Reference](http://example.com)
STUDENT DISRUPTIONS PLANNED

ANC 'no' to mass action

THE ANC has distanced itself from threats by Cosas to cause disruptions in Cape Town this week. Meanwhile, the new Mbeki cabinet is set to get down to work today.

ERIC NTABAZALILA and ROBERT BRAND report.

THE Western Cape ANC has distanced itself from planned disruptions by the Congress of South African Students (Cosas) in Cape Town this week and has expressed its concern over statements made by the organisation.

"After last week's protest outside the provincial legislature, Cosas threatened to cause "major disruptions" in the city," Cosas spokesperson Mailathongwe Lwana said students would embark on "rolling mass action" until Premier Gerald Morkel was forced to leave office.

"We will not tolerate anyone disturbing our lives," Lwana said. "We are deeply disturbed by the actions of the ANC in the Western Cape. We are not going to put up with it any longer."

ANC Youth League leader Ebrahim Rasool said the ANC is not going to tolerate the disruption of its activities.

"We are deeply disturbed by the actions of the ANC in the Western Cape. We are not going to put up with it any longer."

Rasool said with tensions still running high over the coalition, Morkel is expected to deliver a hard-hitting keynote address at the Western Cape Legislature this afternoon.

With tensions still running high over the coalition, Rasool is expected to deliver a hard-hitting keynote address in the Western Cape Legislature this afternoon.

Rasool and his colleagues will use the next two days to comment on the formation of the Western Cape Legislature this afternoon.

"We will use his speech to reply to Morkel's speech and outline the ANC's strategy as the opposition," Rasool said.

"Mandela's speech clearly revealed his deep insecurities. It was petty, vindictive and tried to hide his obvious embarrassment at the cabinet which is dominated by whites and does not include a single African person," Rasool said.

Other ANC MPs who will participate in the debate will be Patrick McKenzie, Leonard Ramatla, Tseem Essop, Cameron Dugmore and Yusuf Gabu.

Meanwhile, with his inauguration and the appointment of the cabinet behind him, President Thabo Mbeki is set to get down to work this week, beginning with a two-day lekgotla (meeting) to plot the government's strategies for the next five years.

Mbeki is expected to reveal details when he addresses the opening of Parliament today.

The lekgotla, due to begin later today in Gauteng, will be attended by all 28 cabinet ministers, Deputy President Jacob Zuma and Mbeki. The emphasis will be on developing strategies to speed up service delivery and transformation.

Mbeki's spokesperson Ronnie Mamoepa said yesterday.

However, the talks are set to begin under a cloud following a disagreement between Mbeki and IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi over reports that Buthelezi had been offered the deputy presidency but turned it down.

Buthelezi told a KwaZulu-Natal newspaper he had rejected the offer of the post because he did not want his appointment to be linked to negotiations for a coalition government in KwaZulu-Natal.

However, Mbeki referred to these reports as "rumours" and said questions about their origin should be addressed to Buthelezi.

Buthelezi said later he was "deeply distressed" by Mbeki's response.
We won’t ‘burn the city’ — Cosas

THE Congress of South African Students (Cosas) yesterday pledged not to carry out its threat to “burn” Cape Town, and said it would not “destroy other people’s properties” in its rolling mass action campaign to force Western Cape Premier Gerald Morkel from office.

The Cape Times yesterday reported that ANC provincial chairperson Ibrahim Rasool had distanced his organisation from Cosas’ threat to disrupt the city this week.

“We are deeply disturbed by certain statements from the Cosas provincial leadership. These do not enjoy the support of the ANC in the Western Cape. But it is not enough to condemn statements without reaching the people about their frustrations and develop a way forward,” he said.

Rasool said the ANC would arrange a meeting with the student organisation to discuss the situation. However, Cosas Western Cape spokesperson Mailshongwe Lwana said yesterday afternoon that the student organisation was unaware of the planned meeting with the ANC, and said they had “only read about it in the newspapers.”

“There is no official correspondence (yet) between the ANC and ourselves in this regard,” he said.

However, Lwana said Cosas would not “burn the city” as reported last week.

“There is something we are going to do (but) we won’t destroy other people’s properties,” he said.

The rolling mass action would start soon, after the Cosas provincial executive had met.

Speaking in the provincial legislature yesterday afternoon, social services and poverty alleviation MEC Peter Marais slammed Cosas for making the threats. South Africa’s masses had become creatures of impatience instead of reason, Marais said.

“This was borne out by the high levels of crime and political intolerance, he said.

Meanwhile, 15 ANC Youth League members picketed the entrance to the legislature building in the city yesterday, demanding the formation of a provincial youth commission.

Staff Writer, Sapa
Political parties say job creation and power allocation are Western Cape’s biggest challenges

Rasool calls for speedy change

NATIONAL
Cosas plans week-long protest in Western Cape

Caroline Christerson

THE Congress of SA Students (Cosas) plans to hold a "provincial week of action" to protest against the coalition government, of the New National Party (NNP) and Democratic Party (DP) in the Western Cape.

The week will include protests, boycotts, stayaways and strikes.

Cosas's president Lebogang Male indicated that Cosas planned to burn Cape Town and said he had set up an internal inquiry into the possibility that some of the organisation's leaders in the Western Cape could be responsible for the reports.

He emphasised that although the African National Congress (ANC) disagreed with the organisation's plan to "make the Western Cape un

governable through illegal means", Cosas's desire for ANC rule in the Western Cape remained.

When asked how Cosas felt the coalition would affect education, he said that the ANC had a clear programme for educational reform, but the NNP and DP did not.

Male said the 42% of provincial voters who voted for the ANC would suffer because of the ANC's exclusion from the coalition.

He dismissed last year's 79.2% matric pass rate in the province as an insufficient indicator of the success of the NNP's educational reform.

Cosas will announce the date of the week of action after a meeting of its national executive council next week. It will meet other organisations to try to enlist their support.
Casas threaten to strike over DP NNP coalition
Cape Town chairman commits to unicity

KENT Morkel, the Cape Town metropolitan council’s new executive committee chairman, is determined to have a smooth transition towards the unicity structure.

Morkel said yesterday that the elections in the transition towards the centralisation of power would have to be trouble free.

He dismissed reports that the council was against the unicity because it was taking the Provincial and Local Government Department to court to challenge the Municipal Structures Act.

"It is the format of the unicity that we are arguing about," Morkel said. "We want to determine the extent to which the Constitution protects municipalities.

"We are afraid of interference in Section 106 of the Constitution that gives powers to municipalities. We feel that (the Municipal Structures Act) is taking away the autonomy of local government.

Morkel also said he intended to continue managing the council the way his predecessor, Pierre Uys, had done. It would be a challenge to keep the council the best managed in the country, he said.

At the moment the council has a reserve surplus and Morkel intends to keep it that way.

Goals

Core to his success will be building a relationship with big business. A forum, which will allow the two to meet, is being set up.

"The goal is to sustain the economic growth and to further develop the small, medium and macro enterprises because it is then that we can have a strong and sustainable economy," Morkel says.

"We are also looking at establishing empowerment companies — not black empowerment but that will reflect the composition of the province, cut across political spectrum and religious barriers."

He says he wants empowerment groups that will deliver.

The first phase of his plans are already in place, backing off with the upgrading of Athlone Stadium.

About R99m is being spent to turn the venue into a world-class soccer stadium.

"We feel that this will give a solid boost to our bid to host the 2006 Soccer World Cup," says Morkel.

"The tournament will in turn be a huge boost to our regional economy in terms of tourism."

He says the construction of a R140m convention centre is also under way as Cape Town feels that it is losing out to Durban in attracting major gatherings.

(263) 89 37 6199
DEVELOPER SPEAKS FROM GREECE

Business dealings with ex-premier explained

AFTER THE RELEASE of a report from the Oseo which says there is no evidence of irregular payments to ex-premier Hernus Kriel relating to the awarding of a casino licence, property developer Ian Hirschson explains his business dealings with Kriel. ROGER FRIEDMAN reports.

WHILE investigators from the Office for Serious Economic Offences found no business dealings between Kriel, Hirschson and Johannesburg property developer Martin Jant "suspicious" — and some of their explanations "unsatisfactory" — they could find no evidence of payments to Kriel in respect of the sale of the Goodwood Showgrounds to a casino company.

Hirschson, Jant and city attorney Raymond Mallach split the R20 million "vendor's commission" after securing an option on the Goodwood Showgrounds site and breaking the deal with the company.

According to Oseo "H Investments No 55 was a shelf company acquired by the vendors (Jant, Hirschson and Mallach) to secure an option to acquire the Goodwood Showgrounds for a future casino development from the Western Province Agricultural Society. H investments was subsequently purchased by Kesaf Investments, which thereby indirectly acquired the option to purchase the Goodwood Showgrounds. The ownership of H Investments was subsequently transferred from Kesaf to Sun International (SA) and the name of H Investments was changed in April 1997 to SunWest."

Since has since died, Kriel has stepped down as premier, SunWest has been chosen as the "preferred" bidder for the Cape Metropole licence, and

Oseo has just completed an 11-month investigation into allegations that Kriel paid R1m to use his influence to ensure that Sunwest obtained the sought-after casino licence.

The investigation was initiated after Oseo received affidavits alleging that Kriel was involved in a corrupt deal with two friends — Jant and Hirschson — to "deliver them", the operator's licence.

Oseo did not only investigate the origin and destination of the R20m commission, but also delved into previous business associations of the central role-players. It was found that Kriel had on occasion loaned money to Jant, invested in one of Jant's property developments, been paid consultancy fees by Hirschson, and that Hirschson was a trustee of "various trusts" established by Kriel.

"But Oseo found that, although a comprehensive forensic accounting review was done in respect of the R20m paid to the vendors, no substantial amounts, as was claimed, could be traced to Kriel's accounts."

Speaking from Greece yesterday, Hirschson said he was unaware of his and Jant's negotiations over the Goodwood Showgrounds property "until we had it in the bag."

"I started the negotiations, then Jant heard what was happening and approached me about it. We subsequently joined forces. Kriel did not know about our negotiations."

Oseo investigator found that Kriel had in the past been paid a monthly consultancy retainer by Hirschson, and that in 1991 Hirschson contributed R40 000 toward the buying of a flat for Kriel in the city.

Hirschson responded yesterday, that presenting these findings without providing any context served to distort the real issues.

"He said that Kriel was paid a retainer by his property company, Equator, among other property companies from 1985 to 1989. He was then a NP MP for Parow."

"In 1989 he became minister of provincial affairs. He immediately resigned from us. There was a rule that members of the cabinet could not engage in private business activities."

Hirschson said the flat in Mouille Point was sold to Kriel by a firm called Undev, which had shares in Equator.

As a new minister, Kriel had been given a government car. He came to me and said he did not need his private car any more, and did I want to buy it? I bought it and I still have the car. I paid him R40 000 for the car (a Nissan Skyline) and what he did with the money is his business."

"Undev sold him the flat, not Equator or me," Hirschson said.

Oseo found "Both Kriel and Hirschson suggested that the sale of a car by Kriel to Hirschson could have been the underlying reason for the above mentioned payment of R40 000 by Hirschson in respect of the flat. No documentary evidence to substantiate this suggestion was obtained. Although the explanations advanced were unsatisfactory, further investigation proved to be fruitless."
Cape Muslims heed the call to the polls

June 4, 1999

NAMIBIA 4 JUNE

ELECTION

M4-G-10/6|99 (269)
Storms in the Cape of Good Hope

The Africa Channel
Mixed reaction to demarcation
Tygerberg rates soar to R710m
Ratepayers are reclaiming the streets of their city

The people least likely to complain that Cape Town is becoming a dirty, unmaintained and unsafe place are the people most likely to be mucking in and getting their hands dirty trying to save the city from the ravages of urbanisation. KARIN SCHIMKE reports on Cape Town's quiet revolution.

A QUIT revolution to tackle the streets of the city of Cape Town is underway and it is being driven less by the council than by residents, workers and especially property owners prepared to take on responsibility for cleanliness, safety, landscaping and marketing of the city themselves.

Although some of the processes have been underway for more than a year, a key legal framework came to life in April, giving impetus to a city-wide revival of the city.

By-laws for the establishment of City Improvement Districts (CID) were gazetted two months ago, allowing property owners to establish Section 21 companies for certain areas of the city. These companies are to be funded through extra levies paid by property owners.

The work carried out in individual CID will be determined by the directors of each CID in a business plan the City of Cape Town must approve.

This in turn means that each CID will determine how much extra property owners will have to pay to be able to fund the work that needs doing.

In other words, a CID that decides it needs only the services of an extra full-time street cleaner, will collect less money than a CID that decides it needs the services of several cleaners, several pest control firms and also wants to plant trees and upgrade street furniture.

The method of collecting the money has been used in so-called first and third world countries around the world and has resulted, for instance, in New York's Times Square in New York from a deep-dirty bust street to one of the most sought-after business and residential areas in the city.

So far, the East City precinct, bordered by Darling, Feen, Castlehaven and South African streets, is closest to becoming a formal CID and Mike Venter — one of the initiators of this CID — hopes the area will have its security and cleaning forces in place by the end of the year.

"We're probably going to be raising our CID on a budget of about R110,000 a month. The council will collect the money along with its rates and taxes and the money will be paid to us by cheque," he said.

The East City precinct has recently been given a boost of confidence by the opening of the new East City Cafe, an upmarket restaurant and bar venue.

The initiative for the cafe came from Cleon Romano, a Cape Town designer who is often called "brave" and "visionary" for his investments in areas perceived to be downmarket.

His investment in the Old Cafe on Lower Main Road, Observatory, the Long Street Cafe and Baudelli's on Kloof Street have uplifted and stimulated economic growth in those nodes.

Romano said: "We have far too many aimless critics in Cape Town and South Africa and if we have a history of negative self-perception. We have to find our own solutions and turn the tide of people out there quickly getting on with things without announcing big plans or having big launches."

"Nothing starts itself out. People sort things out. The problem is that too many property owners have an 'I'm alright, Jack' attitude when it all about community co-operation."

Asked about the cost of extra levies, Romano said: "If people want to just think costs and cons — and city improvement is so much more than that — then I'll answer them in words and facts."

"If you think short-term profit, you're being foolish. When an area gets downgraded, property devalues and no business person wants that. A little bit extra each month will save a lot in the end."

New York, at its worst point, had a totally bankrupt council, a situation Cape Town does not face. However, says Ashley Lillee, chairperson of the CID Association, council priorities change and social needs are now far more important than they were in the past.

"Even if we see a 20% increase in our rates and taxes, we're unlikely to see a 20% increase in our daily cleaning and maintenance services. The council has no worry about housing and other things."

A holistic approach to making cities pleasant to live and work in.
Improving the city is a ‘partnership deal’

KARIN SCHINKE

PROPERTY owners, residents and workers in the centre of Cape Town are quietly getting on with improving the city environment to make it a safer, cleaner and prettier place to live and work in and they have now been given the legislative power to pursue their dreams of a better city.

The City of Cape Town, responding speedily to demands by property owners to organise services supplementing those already offered by the council, designed by-laws promulgated in April this year which allow for the establishment of City Improvement Districts (CIDs).

A CID is a defined geographic area in which property owners form an association — usually in the form of a non-profit or section 21 company — to enable them to supplement council services.

They are not intended to replace the local authority, but provide an opportunity for property owners to decide on how they would like to enhance their specific physical and social environment.

City manager Andrew Borane said yesterday: “The by-laws were designed to improve the quality of doing business, retaining business and encouraging new investment.

It’s a partnership deal in which we, the council, sign contracts to deliver a certain level of service and property owners help enhance the city.”

He said the CID legislation could not have happened without the initiative and enthusiasm of private business, “especially the likes of Business Against Crime and the South African Property Owners’ Association, who were real pioneers”.

Borane said he was confident that CIDs were the road to a brighter future for the city.

“We didn’t suck the concept out of our thumbs. Many cities with the same problems have done this and it has worked all over the world,” said Borane.

So far, at least six inner-city areas have started developing business plans and doing the groundwork to establish CIDs.

The east city precinct is closest to completion. Residents and property owners in Long Street last night held an informal meeting to discuss the possibility of establishing a CID for Upper Long Street and the surrounding areas.

*See Page 11*
Union threatens action over lack of consultation on improvement districts.
Fuss over new city by-laws

KARIN SCHUMKE
POLITICAL WRITER
CT 317199

A BID to upgrade Cape Town's business districts, by allowing property owners to supplement services provided by the municipality, has been slammed as "apartheid by another name".

The South African Municipal Workers' Union has resolved to oppose the implementation of by-laws that allow property owners to form City Improvement Districts (CIDs), as reported in yesterday's Cape Times.

The by-laws, which were promulgated in April, allow property owners to form non-profit companies to supplement municipal services in whatever way they deem necessary and in consultation with the city council.

This could include extra street cleaning, extra security, better street furniture and greening of the city.

Municipal officials said the by-laws are not intended to release the council from its social contract to provide services to all communities, but are aimed at making the city's business districts friendlier to people who visit them, or live and work in them.

In a press statement, the union said yesterday: "It is patently absurd to think that desperately poor residents in township areas would be able to form the same companies to supplement their own non-existent council services. Does this mean that township areas will stay at the same degraded level as they are today?"

City of Cape Town spokesperson Leonora da Sousa said union officials had clearly misunderstood the city council's intentions.

"The by-laws are aimed at business areas, not residential areas. We are not expecting any residents, especially those in poorer areas, to top up monies for services."

"The servicing of residential areas is the duty of the City of Cape Town as a public authority and all our policies are geared to redistributing resources towards disadvantaged areas."

"It is precisely the establishment of these CIDs in the city's business districts that will allow us to continue doing this," Da Sousa said.

The union said initiatives such as CIDs had been tried before and had failed in the city.

However, while legislation enabling the establishment of improvement districts has become quite common in cities around the world, the concept has never been tried in Cape Town.

The only other South African city which has tried improvement districts is Johannesburg, where the concept has been working successfully for about a year.

Da Sousa said CIDs are not related in any way to the concept of privatising council services.

"There is absolutely no talk of privatising anything," she said.
Zillie thumbs-up over move to cram her style.

Hoffman plans to save millions by moving departments to smaller, cheaper premises.
New laws ensure ‘improved districts’ in Cape Town

Xolani Xundu

THE Cape Town city council has promulgated legislation that will establish ‘city improved districts’, says the city’s director of economic development, Rod Young.

The districts would be managed by different organisations representing property owners in areas such as the Cape Town city centre, Claremont, Observatory and Sea Point. There was also a possibility that such districts would be established in the Athlone and Mitchell’s Plain central business districts.

Young said the districts would be concerned with issues such as cleansing, security, promotion and the marketing of the areas.

“This is a private sector innovation because (the private sector is) concerned about crime, dirty streets, declining standards and we are just facilitating that initiative.”

Young said New York had about 40 of these districts to market and promote the city.

A district had already started in Cape Town, but “a couple of things went wrong” regarding legislation.

“We are busy with procedure and are producing guidelines so that some of these districts do not make the same mistakes.”

Young said this would not affect the council’s delivery of services, nor would it affect jobs. In fact, more jobs would be created.

The SA Municipal Workers’ Union (Samwu) had “not really (been) consulted” about the initiative as it did not affect the union.

“If we were transferring responsibilities we would have consulted them. This will have no impact on them and the council. For example, security has nothing to do with Samwu and the council. It is a provincial function,” Young said.

Property owners in the affected areas would pay for these additional services as a top-up to rates.

The concept would not be transferred to residential areas. “It won’t become the norm. This made business sense from the city’s point of view, as property owners would pay more to enhance services in business districts and the entire city’s rate payers would not be burdened in the process.”

Samwu said earlier that it would oppose any bylaws aimed at establishing these districts and that it was shocked to learn that rich communities, which could afford extra rates, were planning to form nonprofit section 21 companies.

The union had a policy that services should be provided through a system of block tariffs funded by cross-subsidisation.

Samwu Cape Town chairman Andre Adams said the union was sceptical about the intentions of those establishing the districts.

“The implications are obvious. Those who can afford them will receive better services and those who can’t afford them will suffer. The onus is on the council to provide equal services for all,” he said.

The proposed districts would hamper mechanisms to address past imbalances in terms of service delivery. “The rich will not be prepared to pay any more to the city coffers for cross-subsidisation.”

Told that Young had said these districts would not be established in residential areas, Adams said: “We are not aware of that. Any community that can afford to do so can establish these section 21 companies.”

Samwu did not believe that service delivery should be addressed in such a piecemeal way. “There was a need for a holistic approach.”

“The moment we are at loggerheads with the council on how to deliver services holistically, they are promoting privatisation and do not want to bind themselves to the record of understanding signed by the SA Local Government Association and the Congress of SA Trade Unions last year,” Adams said.

The record of understanding included consultation between the union and municipalities on how to restructure administration, effectively using available resources and the delivery functions of local authorities.

Johannesburg had about four of these districts and apparently Samwu never opposed their establishment.

Adams said he was unable to comment on this particular issue.

The union’s general secretary, Roger Roome, referred all queries regarding the districts to Adams and the union’s spokesman, Anna Weeke.

As they were the people dealing directly with them, Weeke said they could not be reached for comment.
Municipal bosses living in fear as jobless dump garbage at homes

JOYFUL MASONDI MANELA
Special Correspondent

Guguletu residents who have been demanding jobs as refuse collectors are now targeting the homes of municipal employers in their messy fight for work.

Some City of Cape Town employees living in Guguletu, said they were living in fear after angry residents dumped garbage at the homes of several council officials.

Last week residents also burnt tyres and waste outside the Guguletu municipal offices in support of their demands to be employed as waste collectors.

Councillor Tom Gcuna said residents raided his house and dumped garbage there last week.

The municipality's Ikapa Parks branch regional manager, Temba Daweti, said angry residents dumped garbage at his home and threatened to burn down his house.

Mr Daweti's wife, Nokosi, and their children were alone at home when a mob arrived.

"When I got home there was garbage strewn all over my yard. Fortunately the council got a private company to clean up the mess," Mr Daweti said, adding that he was targeted because he had ignored residents' calls to resign.

"I'm not prepared to lose my job because some people say I must not deliver services to the community," Mr Daweti said he had laid criminal charges against the people who had dumped the garbage.

He warned that he and his colleagues would stop working if the council did not take action.

Mr Daweti said 10 people claiming to be residents' leaders denied having sanctioned the protest against him, and claimed some of his staff were behind the dumping.

Guguletu Unemployed Residents' Union spokesman Fezile Bhuwana said they had met city manager Andrew Boraine on Friday and were still negotiating.

Mr Bhuwana said the residents were not prepared to abandon the action until their demands for jobs had been met.

Council spokeswoman Leonora de Souza-Ziwa urged residents to cooperate with the council to resolve the impasse, and said: "We need a stable community in order to implement social programmes. People must help us to help themselves."

She said the municipality was required by law to render services to the community. The council was very concerned about the plight of the unemployed, but could not make promises to people that could not be met.

She denied that there were hundreds of municipal vacancies.
Deadlock broken as Tygerbeir agrees to pay city $33m

The City of Cape Town and Tygerbeir have reached an agreement to resolve the deadlock that has prevented them from finalising the sale of the Tygerbeir property. The agreement was reached after months of negotiations and a series of meetings between the two parties.

Under the terms of the agreement, Tygerbeir will make a payment of $33 million to the City of Cape Town, effectively concluding the sale process. This amount is intended to cover outstanding legal and administrative costs associated with the property.

Both parties have committed to working closely together to ensure that the transfer of ownership is completed efficiently and without further delays. The City of Cape Town has expressed its gratitude to Tygerbeir for its cooperation and understanding throughout the process.

The agreement is a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to resolve the dispute over the Tygerbeir property, which has been a source of contention for several years. The City of Cape Town has stressed the importance of maintaining good relations with stakeholders and has vowed to continue engaging constructively with all parties involved in the matter.

The City of Cape Town will now proceed with the necessary legal and administrative procedures to transfer ownership of the Tygerbeir property to Tygerbeir. It is anticipated that these processes will be concluded in a timely manner, given the commitment of both parties to a swift and efficient resolution.

The agreement also includes provisions for ongoing cooperation and communication between the City of Cape Town and Tygerbeir, ensuring a smooth transition of responsibilities and ensuring that any future issues are addressed promptly and effectively.

Both parties have expressed their commitment to upholding the principles of transparency and accountability throughout the entire process, which is expected to strengthen the relationship between the City of Cape Town and Tygerbeir.

This agreement is a testament to the ongoing efforts by both parties to resolve the disputes and to move forward in a constructive manner. The City of Cape Town has also assured Tygerbeir that it will continue to provide support and assistance in any further engagements, as required.

The City of Cape Town is also committed to maintaining open and transparent communication with all stakeholders, including the public, to ensure that the interests of all parties are taken into consideration during the ongoing processes.
Non-stop one-stop works out

Barry Streek

The essence of the new R31,3-million Ubombo Community Multi-Purpose Centre in Zwidehama, Winterton, is organised by the local Nkangala District Municipality. The centre, designed to accommodate a range of community services, is the result of a joint effort by the Ubombo Community Development Committee and the Ubombo Municipal Council. The centre is expected to become a focal point for the community, providing a range of services including health, education, and recreation.

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REQUEST FOR APPLICATION

INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS WANTED
As a result of the league of trained Social Workers to work in the community, it is proposed to establish a centre in Zwidehama. The centre will aim to facilitate community participation and provide a space for community meetings, social support, and education.

COSDA DZ AND PORT NEW REGIONAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE PREQUALIFICATION OF SERVICE PROVIDERS

The Cosda DZ and Port New Regional Hazardous Waste Site Prequalification of Service Providers aims to identify service providers who are capable of handling hazardous waste in a safe and environmentally friendly manner. This project is a joint initiative between Cosda DZ and Port New, and the objective is to promote a sustainable approach to waste management.

Schroeder, the department’s social development officer for the Overberg and Soland, believes that the Ubombo Centre’s success is due to the community’s active involvement in the planning and implementation of the project. He highlights the importance of community participation in ensuring the sustainability of such initiatives.

The centre is open to all members of the community, providing a space for learning, recreation, and social support. It is hoped that this centre will become a hub for community activities, fostering a sense of belonging and empowerment among the residents of Zwidehama.
BOUNDARIES TO BE DEFINED

Cape Town set to be node of new unicity

IDENTIFYING THE nodal points of planned unincities is the first step towards creating the new cities by combining several municipalities. Metro Writer BUNTY WEST reports.

TOMORROW, Provincial and Local Government Minister Sydney Mufamadi will announce the nodal points for South Africa's six megacities or unincities, and local officials are confident that Cape Town will be selected in the Western Cape.

The naming of the nodal points is the first step in the statutory process for the establishment of a unicity or Category A municipality (metropolitan area).

This will be followed, in October, by the naming of the outer limits of the unicity, and only then will communities know if they are part of the metropolitan area.

According to council sources, it is by no means certain that residents of Atlantis, Stellenbosch and Helderberg will be part of the new unicity.

With municipal elections only 15 months away, it is important that the extent of the boundaries is known, because it will leave only 12 months to set up a voters roll and get the new administration in place. But city manager Andrew Boraine believes the boundary question is irrelevant, as most people are only concerned with service delivery and the need for existing services to be maintained.

Boraine said the advantages of being a unicity outweighed the disadvantages but he admitted there could be problems, especially concerning efficiency and a lack of accountability by a large council.

“These problems can be offset if we look at incentive-driven packages to maintain efficiency and full-time councillors with staff at local offices to provide real help at a local level. We have already looked at other models overseas,” Boraine said.

He referred to the Toronto model, which is similar in many respects to Cape Town, where six local municipalities and a metro council merged to form one large megacity council.

“Toronto set up community councils which are effectively planning tribunals, making decisions on local matters that affect the residents. Ward councillors sit on the community councils and help with the decision making,” Boraine said.

Ideally, Boraine would like to see a new council with just 120 members, but he says this would be something for the politicians to decide.

CONFIDENT: City manager Andrew Boraine believes the advantages of unincities outweigh the disadvantages.

FILE PICTURE
Cape Town is to be a "megacity" with a single local authority overseeing the municipal affairs of all its 5 million inhabitants.

This is revealed today by Provincial and Local Government Minister Sydney Mufamadi.

In Johannesburg, the East Rand, Durban and Port Elizabeth have also been classified as megacities or "unicities" and they too will have to put all their municipal authorities under one umbrella.

In Cape Town, the "node point" or centre of the new megacity has been identified as the corner of Church and Park streets - the site of the City Hall - and its new local authority's offices are likely to be as close to that point as possible.

The minister's long-awaited announcement in Pretoria today means the six local authorities of Cape Town, Blaauwberg, Helderberg, South Peninsula, Tygerberg, Overberg and the umbrella body of the Cape Metropolitan Council all have to be funded and run with a single staff.

"New spatial boundaries and internal ward boundaries will have to be drawn, and the municipal demarcation board will begin immediately. There should be clarity on the city's outer limits within three months."

Come what may, the swamping of the big city councils has to be finished before the local government elections which, according to the constitution, must take place by January 2000.

Although heated debate continues over the new system, Cape Town manager Andrew Boraine said he was confident the move would help transform Cape Town into a modern, efficient, competitive and far more equitable place to live and work.

Five years ago, when a two-tier local government system was established in Cape Town, the most important objective was to decentralise the old apartheid structures and bring the city together, Mr Boraine said.

Now the creation of a megacity would have a number of important possibilities.

These would include the creation of public-owned utility companies to run the city's water, waste and electricity services and the restructuring of the municipal "core business" on to health, development, service delivery and improving performance.

Taking Cape Town into a megacity would also decentralise the Peninsula, improve the city's competitiveness both nationally and internationally and prevent the decay of the CTID, he said.

"It is these issues that (today's) announcement is really about, it starts the debate on them. It's about modernisation and transformation."

Mr Mufamadi said the declaration of metropolitan areas was regarded as a significant event in the transformation of local government.

The new council will be allowed a maximum of 270 councillors, half of whom will be ward councillors.

Mr Boraine said he hoped the new city council would be run by 10 to 12 councillors.

Questions and answers: Pierre Uys

Court fight over Peninsula unicity

Peninsula unicity council would be run by fewer councillors.

Johannesburg had already indicated it would have only 99, although they would be full-time.

"This system is far better for the people of the city and it can save an enormous amount of money and prevent wasteful duplication," Mr Boraine said.

At the moment, for example, there were seven tourist authorities in "greater" Cape Town.

"The brand name we are selling in Cape Town is and the symbol is the mountain. We can't try to compete with each other - we have to work as one," Mr Boraine said.

The new city also means there will be a single rate base - a good thing for people living in the older parts of the city where rates are traditionally higher.

The combined budget of the six municipal structures and Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) is R7 billion - money which the unicity will now have at its disposal.

"There can be a more cohesive approach to issues of housing and health," Mr Boraine said.

The Western Cape provincial government, concerned by the Black Freedom Party and the Western Cape government coalition have launched a High Court bid to overturn the decision.

The cases are scheduled to be heard later this month but it seems likely the matter will be forwarded to the Constitutional Court for a final decision.

New chief executive of the CMC Kent Morkel argued the new system would free local government from the control of ordinary people.

"We were really getting somewhere with the six authorities in Cape Town, and it seems such a shame that the whole system has to be turned upside down again simply to have a unicity."

Mr Morkel favoured a system which allowed "substructures", because it was more accessible and user-friendly. He envisaged a "team and money" top management with many local government functions contracted out.
I don’t like the megacity but we’ll make it work

Minister Uys puts on a brave face ahead of High Court challenge – but warns of a burgeoning bureaucracy

By PAUL HUGLIN

The Western Cape’s local government minister Pierre Uys has been fighting against Cape Town becoming a “megacity” for almost three years.

"But despite this opposition – which is based mainly on the cost and possible weakening of ties with communities – he says will result from megacity status – Mr Uys has put on a brave face on today’s inevitable announcement.

"I want to send out a positive message," he told The Cape Argus this week. "My hope is that we will make a success of whatever is put on the table by being positive and proactive."

There is a glimmer of hope for the New National Party provincial cabinet minister and former chairman of the Cape Metropolitan Council. The High Court challenge to the megacity proposal, launched by both KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape, are due to be heard later this month.

It is likely the matter will be forwarded to the Constitutional Court for a final decision by Mr Uys is not present, the court will rule in his favour. "We don’t want to sit back and not be ready," he said.

The criteria for the national government to declare a megacity – population density and number of people, level of services and number of economic nodal points – were such that Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg were never going to escape the classification. At a push, Mr Uys concludes, there could be some benefits to the megacity idea, particularly in the planning area as well as in the implementation and management of the Cape’s mass system.

But he sees more problems than advantages: a bigger bureaucracy, less efficiency, more cost, a government further from the people and the financial impact of the second major restructuring of local government in less than five years.

He has already scheduled meetings with Cape Town’s local authorities to urge them to freeze ports and use the government's findings to look ahead. He has also met with the Independent Electoral Commission to avoid any repeats of the problems experienced earlier this year. In addition to this, a whole raft of legislation aimed at local government is currently being finalised at a national level, including bills on the topics of municipal systems and property rate valuation.

Each will require significant effort to approve and implement.

The huge task of re-vamping many properties in the metropolitan area is to start this year. Already R350 million has been budgeted over two years by the Cape Metropolitan Council and municipal local councils for what will be a major operation demanding considerable sensitivity.

"We could have a problem if we don’t handle the situation properly," Mr Uys said.
City's future is now in private hands

Council and business join up to run CBD

Cape Town city manager Andrew Boraine said the council could not overcome the threats of urban blight and decentralisation on its own.

"Together with the Cape Town Partnership, we are developing comprehensive and sustainable solutions to specific problems, such as law enforcement, cleansing and parking."

Mr Boraine vehemently denied the city council was abandoning the central business district or decreasing service levels by transferring responsibilities to the private sector.

"The Johannesburg CBD was destroyed first by mindless, unchecked decentralisation, and then by poor urban management and a slow response to crime and grime," he said.

The council was committed to preventing the same from happening to Cape Town, but there had to be a commitment from property developers and business to improving the condition of the inner city and to halting the "decentralisation" trend.

The goal of the new company will be to turn Cape Town into a clean, safe centre full of foreign tourists using their pounds and dollars and marks to buy local goods.

Companies in town will be asked to pay a "top-up" levy to improve municipal services - an amount which will be negotiated with them in coming months.

Part of the action plan of the new company, which has already begun, is to divide the city into "City Improvement Districts", each with its own management team. This team will be responsible for keeping its district clean, attractive and safe for all inhabitants and users.

Cape Town Tourism manager Sheryl Ooms gave the potential of the new partnership was "huge".

"It enables the citizens of Cape Town, ratepayers and business leaders, who work and live in the city, to take responsibility together with local government for Cape Town to become a world-class destination."

The city is likely to be divided into 14 precincts: Western Foreshore, Eastern Foreshore, Riebeek, Thibault, Station, East City, West City, Central City, Grindel Central, Castle Parade, Long Street, Gardens, Lower Gardens, and District Six.
Legal action threat to council's pact on insurance fraud

An out-of-court settlement between the Cape Town City Council and a municipal trade union that allegedly stole R6 million from a group life insurance scheme has costs back to haunt the council.

The council and the Independent Municipal and Allied Trade Union (IMATU) agreed in February this year that the union would pay back R500 000, and that the council would write off R6.25 million. The R500 000 was to be paid to the council in two payments, the last of which was to be made by April this year.

But new union members, who lost money, are threatening legal action. They are objecting in principle to the council not prosecuting union officials who are allegedly guilty of fraud.

The money was reported missing when the all-white Cape Town municipal union known as the South African Association of Municipal Employees (SAAMPE) ran the insurance scheme.

SAAMPE later disbanded and was replaced by the all-race IMATU. Between 1987 and 1993, SAAMPE represented more than 4 000 members at its Cape Town branch. The group life insurance scheme was arranged by the union in 1987.

SAAMPE arranged for members to pay R50 for every R1 000 insured to an insurance broker each month.

But in 1999, an emerging union, the Professional Staff Association (PSA), filed an industrial court hearing that SAAMPE had been paying the insurance broker only R4 a month for every R1 000 insured. The difference, believed to total about R4 million, was allegedly kept by the SAAMPE leaders.

The council lodged a civil claim against the union to reclaim the money in February, 1999, and later reached the settlement with IMATU.

Two former executive members claimed that SAAMPE officials skimmed millions off the insurance scheme because of gross mismanagement of the union's affairs, and high living by some executive members.

Former SAAMPE members say they have asked council to send them details of the settlement so they can claim their money. They have also accused council officials of negotiating the settlement without mandate.
Conflict over Cango Caves trip

MELANIE GOSLING
ENVIRONMENT WRITER

OUTSHOORN town council sent eight people on a R296 000 overseas trip last month to “evaluate” three international cave experts who might help save the deteriorating Cango Caves — yet only one person was a scientist.

The three-week trip to France, Italy and Australia has been criticized as a pittance, but the town’s mayor, Roland Faro, who went on the trip, has defended it.

“This council believes it is essential that something be done to save the Cango Caves from deterioration. Therefore, we had to become involved,” he said.

The delegation has recommended that a feasibility study be done on blasting a second entrance into the caves — a move which was crucified when it was suggested by a controversial University of Free State study two years ago.

Faro said the trip had been funded by money made from the caves, which are owned by the state. “The money was used to pay for the delegates only.”

Others in the delegation were caves manager Hein Gertsner, Johann Loock, a geologist and member of the Caves Scientific Advisory Committee, Mike Schultz, former town clerk and a member of the advisory committee, Schalk Opperman, town engineer, Sphi Koma, chairperson of council’s executive committee, Tinas McKenna, of the Outshoorn tourism committee, and Jan Smit, town clerk.

Gertsner said: “About 250 000 people visit the caves every year. They exhale carbon dioxide and they’re sweaty. We’re looking at punching an entrance about 700m into the caves, bring the visitors in there and out the old entrance, thereby halving the time they’re in the cave.

The carbon dioxide mixes with the water vapour in the caves and forms an acid which attacks the limestone formations. People’s body heat raises the temperature of the caves, which affects the formations, many of which have become dull brown instead of shining like candles.”

Stephen Craven, South Africa’s representative at the International Speleological Union and a member of the Cango Caves Advisory Committee, said the R296 000 spent on the trip could have paid for an expert to come and inspect the caves and make recommendations.

He believes blasting a second entrance would be disastrous.

“The biggest problem with the Cango Caves is that it is run by councillors who, like politicians, have no long-term plans. There needs to be a change in the management structure, so that Cape Nature Conservation or SA National Parks — who are free from day-to-day political interference and who can take a long-term view — can control the caves,” he said.
Megacity legislation faces court challenge

JANET HEARD

THE Western Cape government will issue a last-ditch challenge to the megacity legislation in the Constitutional Court this week.

Although transitional arrangements for the formation of a megacity are already well under way, the provincial government will argue that aspects of the national legislation — the Municipal Structures Act — are unconstitutional.

If the court rules in the province's favour, legislators will have to go back to the drawing board.

"Argument will be led that the Act has eroded the province's freedom of choice and given the national minister (of local government, Sydney Mufamadi) too much authority," said advocate Dirk Brand, of the government's legal team.

The KwaZulu-Natal government will also challenge the legislation before the Constitutional Court this week.

Western CapeANC provincial members this week failed in their bid to call for a snap debate on the implications of the court action. It criticised the challenge, saying it could delay next year's local elections.

"On the one hand, there are moves to prepare for the unicity, then on the other hand they are challenging it," said ANC spokesman Cameron Dugmore.

Earlier this year, the Cape Metropolitan Council challenged the legislation in the High Court. Judgment has not yet been handed down.

The Constitutional Court will sit on Tuesday and Wednesday.
Politicians air grievances over allowances

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

MEMBERS of the Western Cape provincial legislature (MPLs) yesterday aired their grievances about what they perceived to be a worse financial deal than their counterparts in other legislatures get.

In a meeting of the legislature's rules committee, political parties used examples to demonstrate that their requests for consideration for larger constituency and telephone allowances were not unreasonable.

Western Cape members get R3 500 a month for constituency work, R3 000 of which comes from treasury and R500 of which is gleaned from savings made by the legislature. By contrast, members of the national parliament and the Gauteng legislature are given R4 500 a month and members of the KwaZulu-Natal legislature are given R6 000 a month for constituency work, MPLs told the committee.

Western Cape MPLs get R250 a month towards telephone use and committee chairpersons get R350. This contrasted starkly with Mpumalanga MPLs who are given R2 500 a month for a telephone allowance. This amount included a cellphone and a cellphone contract, the committee was told.

Peter Petronus, secretary of the legislature, said he would look into the matter.

Meanwhile, the strength of the alliance between the New National Party and the Democratic Party in the Western Cape legislature became clear yesterday when the composition of standing committees was finalised.

The alliance holds the majority in all the committees — which is where legislation is processed — and the NNP holds chairmanship of six of the committees.

The DP and United Democratic Movement did not get any chairperson positions, while the African Christian Democratic Party's Michael Louw will chair the economic development committee and the ANC's Tasneem Essop will chair the public accounts committee.

The Essop chaired the previous public accounts committee and Louw was a member of Gerald Morkel's multi-party cabinet before the June elections.

Legislature work kicked off in earnest yesterday when the rules committee, chaired by the Speaker Willem Doman of the NNP, sat to discuss housekeeping issues, including allowances, parking, offices and committee composition.

The committee also decided to reactivate the legislature's aesthetic committee, which will be tasked with finding suitable art to display in the legislature. The committee is to be made up of Doman, Deputy Speaker Lynne Brown and one member from each of the five parties.

The legislature will be sitting from 6 to 17 September.
Bo-Kaap name change rejected

TREVOR OOSTERHUIX, Staff Reporter

Bo-Kaap residents have succeeded in preventing an attempt to rename the area the Malay Quarter.

At a meeting last night, African National Congress provincial leader Ibrahim Rasool met the two groups involved in the bitter fight over the renaming of the area tomorrow on Heritage Day.

At the forefront of the campaign to have the name changed is Tasneem Kalam, spokeswoman for the Forum for Malay Culture in South Africa. She said the aim was to preserve and promote Malay culture and create a living monument for the pioneers of Islam in South Africa, who had come from Malaysia.

Some Bo-Kaap residents rejected the move because it reminded them of the apartheid days. They had not been consulted and not all those living in the Bo-Kaap were of Malaysian origin.

The Bo-Kaap, as a residential area, took shape from the 1780s when plots were handed out. From 1800 onwards, the first mosques and Muslim schools were established. During the 1840s the Muslim character of Bo-Kaap became entrenched.

At last night's meeting it was decided to celebrate the Malay heritage in Cape Town and in this way honour the Malay ancestors. It was agreed not to go ahead with the renaming of the area.

A function, which will be attended by visitors from Malaysia, will be held in the area tomorrow with Mr Rasool as one of the guests.
ANC, NNP in megacity deal

THE ANC AND NNP have reached an agreement over a commission to establish, the Cape Town megacity, that effectively sidelines the DP. JUDITH SOAL reports.

THE provincial government is to announce the formation of a Unicity Commission to oversee the merging of Cape Town's seven councils into a single municipality today - the same day that the Constitutional Court is expected to rule on the province's challenge of the unicity concept.

Local Government MEC Pierre Uys said negotiations on the structure and functioning of the commission had continued for several weeks. It was agreed that the 11-person group would comprise five ANC members, five NNP members and one DP member.

When making decisions, the commission would 'strive for' 100% agreement, but a decision could be passed by consensus among 75% of its members, he said. This means the NNP and DP are unable to form an alliance to exclude the ANC, as they have done in the provincial legislature. It also means the DP's contribution is largely irrelevant, as no decision can be made without the support of both major parties.

The commission will make recommendations on all aspects of local government under the new mega-municipality, including its name, how services from six local councils and one metropolitan council will be integrated, what to do about conflicting by-laws, and the accommodation of council workers into a single workforce.

"There is a lot of work to be done," said Uys, the former chairperson of the NNP-led Cape Metropolitan Council. "It is essential the commission begins as soon as possible so that we will be ready for local government elections in November next year."

The agreement on the Metropolitan Commission will be taken to the seven councils next week for ratification.

The NNP and DP have been outspoken critics of the megacity concept, resulting in the Constitutional Court challenge. Uys said he did not see a conflict between the province's court bid and the agreement over the Unicity Commission.

"At least we will have judgment today so there will be clarity," he said. "I wasn't part of the decision to challenge the law but I believe it was necessary. My aim is to make this metropolitan area succeed."

The ANC's Saleem Mowzer, chairperson of the city council exco, said he was confident the court would uphold the Municipal Structures Act that supports the formation of unities in Johannesburg, the East Rand, Pretoria, Durban and Cape Town.

Mowzer and Uys haven't always agreed on these matters, but yesterday they were talking the same talk of the importance of "facilitating the process" and "smoothing the transition". They didn't agree on the name of the commission - Uys called it the Metropolitan Commission while Mowzer insists the documents refer to a Unicity Commission - but they agreed that it was the best thing for the province.

The DP said the agreement was a "compromise."

"We've said we won't negotiate through the press, but obviously we would have wanted more seats," said DP councillor Ian Nelton
Megacity plans halted but act stays intact

JOHANNESBURG: The court decision that the megacity plans are unconstitutional "did not fundamentally alter" the Municipal Structures Act, Prince Hamnca reports.

PROVINCIAL and Local Government Minister Sydney Mufamadi's controversial decision to declare greater Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban megacities unconstitutional and invalid, the Constitutional Court ruled on Friday.

The landmark judgment also found Mufamadi's decision to declare the East Rand and Pretoria megacities to be invalid.

The Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal provincial governments had challenged the dilution of provincial powers and the constitutionality of the Municipal Structures Act.

The act, which was passed last year, makes provision for a thorough revamp of local government, including the creation of megacity councils.

The court ruled that the act in itself was not unconstitutional, but that sections of it were inconsistent with chapter 7 of the Constitution, which divides powers and functions relating to the structure and control of local government, between different organs of state.

Mufamadi will need to effect necessary amendments to correct the act.

The time-frames of the demarcation board are now likely to be affected, and the final decision on metropolitan boundaries could be delayed.

The deadline for the demarcation process is March 2000.

The Constitutional Development Department's deputy director-general Crispian Oliver said the court's decision did not fundamentally alter the act.

He said the decision was not likely to affect the local government elections.

"It just shifts the decision from the minister to the board. It's now a technical decision to declare metropolitan areas," he said.

He said the framework, structure and policy of the act had not been fundamentally altered.

Demarcation Board chairperson Michael Sutchiffe said the board's work would not be affected.

"In respect of determining district council boundaries and the boundaries of local municipalities and district management areas is unaffected by the court's ruling," he said.
Govt urged to tackle job inequities

ANU MANDIRAKANTHI

THE internal affirmative action policy of the Western Cape provincial government has not been effective yet, according to a study released by the Gender Advocacy Programme (Gap) last week.

Gap has found that senior management positions are filled predominantly by white males.

Its survey has also found that 35% of the staff members are women and that women hold 14% of senior management positions and 24% of middle management positions.

Three out of five women in managerial positions are white.

"One in two African women is employed at the lowest levels, but there are no white men or women in jobs at these levels!"

In the provincial legislature, women hold 27% of the seats. Half of these women are white.

"A challenge facing the Western Cape legislature and the provincial administration is to redress these imbalances," Gap's acting director, Shanaaz Mathews, said in a statement.

Gap recommended that the provincial administration "fast-track its implementation of employment equity to reflect the gender and race demographics of the Western Cape."
Forum says no to a unicity

IN A 39-page submission to the Demarcation Board, the Pro-Heiderberg Forum (PHF) has rejected a Cape Town unicity in favour of linkage with the Wynelands District Council (WDC).


In the submission the Afrikaanse Sakekamer chairperson Janne Moodman said Heiderberg should remain an independent local authority which would cooperate with its neighbours on common issues.

"Serious consideration and factual investigations should be made regarding the cost of unicity failure. We must manage and minimise the risks to attract offshore investors," he said.

Because of the Heiderberg's rural character, where there are large tracts of developed farm and wine land, surrounding urban areas, the PHF believes that it should not be interfered with as one shouldn't "change a winning formula that is producing results."

The report claims that there is no justification for the board's statement that "finalisation of the boundary issue will provide area-wide stability, which will increase investor confidence." The PHF contends it is more likely investors will lose confidence with bigger "government-by-remote-control" bureaucracies. — Staff Reporter

(263) CT 10/11/94
Mr Cape Town’ aims at world class

Big clean-up of ‘crime and grime’ in inner city promised as new age dawns

In the first year of the new millennium, Cape Town will begin an impressive clean-up drive. The aim is to tackle the city’s most pressing problems - crime and grime.

Mr Farr has started tackling the city’s biggest problems, crime and grime. He has been tasked with reviving the city council area into its former glory.

In a scheme launched by the city council, property owners within the improvement districts have already started asking the City of Cape Town for a minimum service guarantee.

The improvement district would then decide on the level of self-funded additional or "top-up" services needed to make the area more attractive and free of crime and litter.

"The Mbweni Square improvement district is one that operates without the necessary by-law. By this time next year all improvement districts will be operating efficiently. There will be a significant reduction in crime and litter," promised Mr Farr.

Millennium man: Michael Farr, the man who will lead the city of Cape Town into the next century.