



Chatsworth Upgrade

THE UPGRADE has finally started. This means that as a community that suffered for so long, living in flats and buildings that were poorly built, these conditions will be changed for the better. The upgrade project will also mean employment for the people. Rambros as the contractor, has to employ 100% unskilled and 50% skilled labour from the community.

Ram has to provide the OCR and Vaughn Charles with a list of all employees on a regular basis.

What rates must be paid?

The rates are laid down in an agreement between Rambros and the Ethekwini Municipality.

CLO – the Community Liaison Officer is employed by the contractor who is the link between the community and the contractor. The CLO does not employ or fire workers.

When do you contact the CLO? When you have a complaint about any work that is not done properly or is incomplete or there is an emergency, you lodge a complaint with the CLO. A receipt is given to you about your complaint that

will indicate the date, time and nature of the complaint and your name and address.

You must give the CLO time to respond, unless it is urgent like a burst water pipe.

What do you do if the CLO does not respond within a reasonable time?

You contact the steering committee in your area. If you don't get results from the steering committee, then you contact

the OCR on 304 6451.

The Organisation of Civic Rights (OCR) is a community based organisation that was formed in 1984 to take up the conditions affecting the disadvantaged, the elderly, the poor and those suffering as a result of unjust socio-economic conditions, laws and regulations. It provides a paralegal service and is involved at grassroots level on Tenants rights, Homeless, Inner city redevelopment, Anti-crime & other community issues.

Who or what is the steering committee?

Members of the community, sometimes from different organisations, who represent your interests. They are your eyes and ears to

make sure that you get what you deserve.

What is the job of the OCR: The Organisation of Civic Rights (OCR) was appointed by the Ethekwini Municipality to be the social facilitator. In other words, the OCR has to make sure that all those involved in the upgrade are working together in the interest of the community.

Area	CLO	Members of the steering committee
Bayview	Krishni Shantal Pillay	Baabs Moodley, Shamilla Pillay, Shirley Ibrahim, Brandon Pillay, Joseph Alexander, Sally James Paul, Mavis Jaithoon Osman
Westcliff	Somaganthie (Orlean) Naidoo	James Lutchmanna, Vasantha Munsami, Theresa Silas, Bobby Chetty, Pinky Naidoo, Patsy Govender, Charmaine Khan
Crossmoor	Raakhee (Sharona) Sham	There is no active steering committee. OCR has made many attempts to have a steering committee in place

The **first phase** of the work is focused on underpinning and drainage. The **second phase** deals with plumbing and toilets. Both these phases have started.

The contractor is replacing and improving the areas around the buildings (aprons) where these are required. It is the engineer who investigates each and every block and then advises the contractor what to do. Each block's needs are different.

Work under the two phases does not include widening of the aprons and pathways and plumbing does not include down pipes. These will be investigated when the roofs are dealt with and the contractor will be advised what to do.

It is important for all stakeholders to follow rules and procedures so that the work is done within the time limit. If anyone interferes with the contractor's work or prevents work in progress, the contractor can refuse to attend to that particular flat, building, street or even the area.

If the contractor is prevented from doing work, the Ethekwini Municipality may have to pay extra money. **This may even lead to the area not getting the attention it needs. Worse still, the upgrade project could be stopped completely.**

The contractor can lay a charge with the police against a person who interferes with the work or workers. The Municipality as landlord can also take action.

“Humans may run faster, read less, or type more quickly, simply because someone else is present. The presence of one person affects the behaviour of another: this is known as social facilitation...”