

**N21 (R300) Toll Ring Road
Draft Notes from One-on-One Meeting:
Zandvlei Environmental Education**

TIME: 09h30-10h30
DATE: Thursday, 22 August, 2002
VENUE: Liebenberg and Stander Building, Foreshore

1. Attendance

NAME	ORGANISATION
Clifford Dorse	SPM Zandvlei
P Venter	Penway Consortium
D du Preez	Chand/Ecosense JV
E Herschell	Chand/Ecosense JV

2. Issues

The following issues arose out of the discussion:

Environmental Education

- The educational centre would be approximately 100m away from where the road would run. There is currently no traffic noise in the area.
- Access to Zandvlei from the surrounding schools is important - 1396 children have already visited there from January through to August 2002.
- The schools in walking distance from Zandvlei may be isolated. Overpasses or underpasses would be necessary.
- Zandvlei's environmental education programme is just starting, and the road would jeopardize its potential. Note that the road reserve and adjacent area is the only available dry land, which offers a different habitat type. The whole of Zandvlei Nature Reserve consists of wetland habitat.
- There are no after hours or overnight environmental education facilities as yet. There is, however, a need for this and light pollution would become a consideration.

Conservation

- About six hectares of the nature reserve (which is road reserve) would be lost.
- Zandvlei is at present the critical minimum size for current species populations. This includes the area of the road reserve.
- The wilderness area of Zandvlei is located to the north and forms a significant part of the reserve, in which there are important populations of certain species such as grysbok and porcupine.
- Three butterfly species are found in this area.

- Zandvlei Trust is an NGO and has no input into the conservation management of the area.

Impacts

- There would be a loss of viability of the reserve in terms of aesthetics and appeal.
- The area's topography and the presence of water would accentuate noise.
- The proposed bridge (which would reach approximately 7m above the railway line) over the railway line would impact visually.
- The bird hide would directly face the road.

Requirements

- There would need to be restrictions and management of stormwater runoff and accidental spills, especially after the winter rains.
- Mitigation for visual and audio impacts - one must mitigate for what is lost, for example, swifts are not found in this area at present, so ubiquitous recommendations for swift boxes to be placed under the bridge should not be made.
- Note that Sheraton Park and Coniston Park are affected areas.
- Permission to burn the road reserve and adjacent areas for species diversity is important.
- Note that the Zandvlei is a functioning estuarine system that at present helps to support the local fishing industry.