

NPO 272-334

Motivation for a rebate on the Purchase of ERF 7106 in Railton to Serve the Children of the Community of Rondomskrik

Introduction

Swellendam Rotary Club was approached by the Executive Mayor of Swellendam in October 2022 with a proposal that Swellendam Rotary Club should facilitate and enable a crèche and preschool to be built in the Rondomskrik area of Railton. This area contains some 388 households and is being expanded with the addition of a further 900 homes in 2024. There are currently no crèche or preschool facilities in the area and children must be taxed to and from facilities in other parts of town. This is unaffordable for the residents of Rondomskrik. The provision of preschool facilities in Rondomskrik is in the Swellendam Municipal Integrated Development Plan which enables the Municipality to assist in the provision of land and services. Swellendam Rotary Club has established an NPO Trust which is registered with the Master of the High Court, the Swellendam Rotary School Trust, which will own the land and assets of the Early Childhood Development Centre on behalf of the children of Railton.

Motivation

Swellendam Rotary club, in partnership with the Swellendam Municipal community affairs department, has held a public meeting and carried out a survey of all the households in Rondomskrik to determine whether the community really wants these facilities. Over 100 residents attended the public meeting, and the survey was completed by 278 households. The result was overwhelming support for the project. The only issue of debate was the age of entry for children to the creche facility.

Swellendam Rotary Club is also partnered with the Department of Education to ensure that the design and specifications of the pre-school will conform with their requirements so that the school can be registered, follow the assigned curricula and receive government funding support. The requirements of the Department of Social



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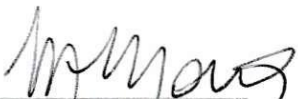
Development will also be adhered to when designing, specifying, building, and staffing the creche facilities.

The Pre-school and creche will create jobs in the local community, both skilled and unskilled as well as opportunities for training and development of teachers and staff. As well as Creche and pre-school facilities for 2 to 6 year olds, after school care for 6 – 13 year olds and adult education classes are also planned.

All the money required for the acquisition of the land, the construction of the building, playground and food gardens has come from donations from the public, from sponsors in business and industry, from partnerships with other NGOs, other Rotary clubs, and the Rotary Foundation. In short, from donations to benefit the children of Rondonkskrik.

Most of the legal and technical support for this project has been provided pro bono, from the establishment of the Trust to the surveying of the ERF and the conveyancing of the sale. In order to maximise the amount of money available to spend on the facilities, training and operation of the project for the benefit of the children of Railton, it is requested that the Council consider whether the cost of the purchase of the land can be reduced for the Rotary club of Swellendam, in line with the guidelines for public benefit projects, to the minimum of 25% of the offer made in the Tender.

Your assistance with this matter is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.



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District Governor 2024/25
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3 July 2024

