

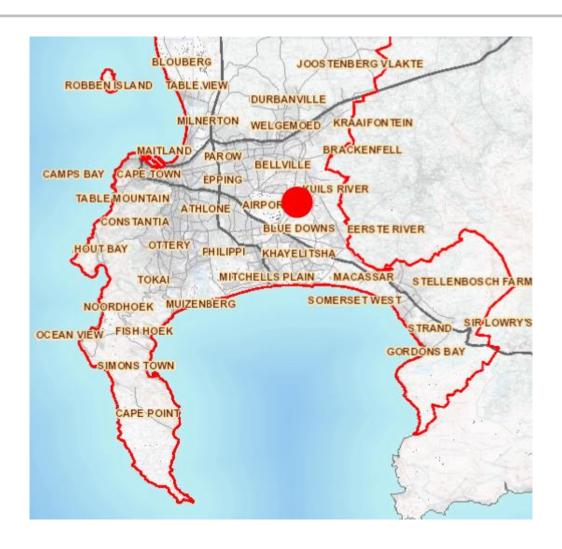
# HOW A DIFFERENCE IN PARK PROVISION EQUALS DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY OF WESBANK

2015 IERM CONVENTION

**JOHAN SWART** 

Making progress possible. Together.

#### **LOCATION - WESBANK**

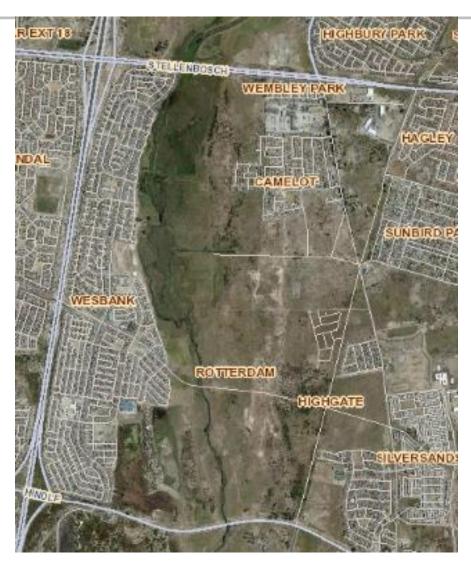


#### WESBANK - BACKGROUND

- BUILD IN 1990
- REPRESENTS A NEW SOUTH ARFICAN COMMUNITY WITH NO SEGREGATION
- 32 000 PEOPLE IN 1.61 KM<sup>2</sup>
- MORE THAN 60% UNEMPLOYMENT
- ONLY ONE FORMAL BUSINESS SITE NO BUSINESS
- ONLY 10% OF REQUIRED SPACE FOR PUBLIC PARKS 4.2Ha
- LINEAR DEVELOPMENT
- VERY ISOLATED BY MAIN AND ARTERIAL ROADS AND RIVER ON ONE SIDE



# **WESBANK - LAYOUT**





#### **WESBANK – CHALLANGES**

- VERY HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT RATE ALL AGES
- DRUG ABUSE, GUN FIGHTS AND GANGSTERISM
- VISITS TO PARKS BECAME BORING
- VANDALISM GYM EQUIPMENT
- 27 ZONED PUBLIC OPEN SPACES
- SIZES 248 2420m²
- EXISTING FACILITIES OVER UTILIZED
- PARKS BECAME DILAPIDATED AND DUMP SITES
- NO PARK DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK FOR WESBANK.
- FORCED TO DO THINGS DIFFERENT IN ORDER TO CHANGE THE LIVES OF THOSE
   TRAPPED IN THE DEVELOPMENT



# **WESBANK - CHALLANGES**





# WESBANK - CHALLANGES



#### WESBANK – THE COUNTER FROM CITY PARKS

- DEVELOP A PARK DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK FOR WESBANK.
- INVOLVE THE YOUNGSTERS (10 and older) DURING PLANNING
- INVOLVE THE YOUNG GANGSTERS TO DO SECURITY DURING PROJECT
- INVOLVE THE UNEMPLOYED RESIDENTS
- TOTALLY DIFFERENT DESIGN CONCEPTS
  - HARDENED SURFACES/ SYNTHETIC TURF
  - HUMPS
  - SEATING/ PROTECTION
  - STEEL TREE CAGES
  - IMPROVED FENCING
- DIFFERENT EQUIPMENT AND PROCUREMENT METHOD TENDER vs. RFP









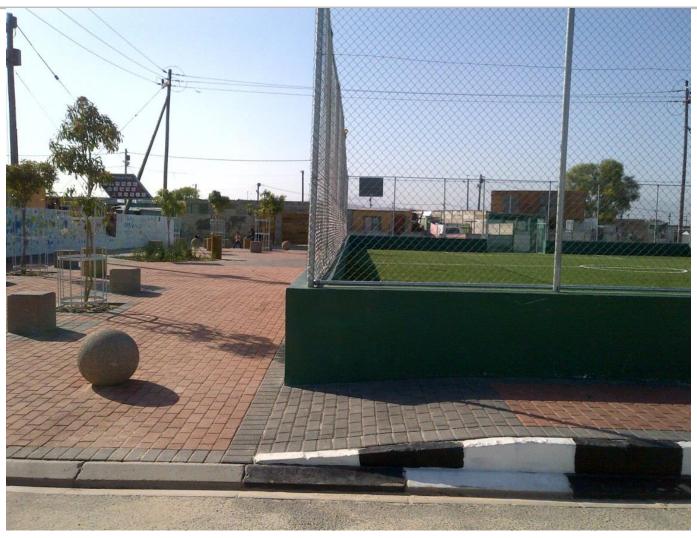














#### WESBANK – THE RESULT

- GANGSTERS STILL ASSIST WITH CONTROL AND LOOKING AFTER THE FACILITY
- CREATED A DIFFERENT FEELING OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY
- 26'ers AND 28's GANGS ARE PLAYING SOCCER TOGETHER
- VIOLENCE DECREASED IN THE AREAS
- NEARBY RESIDENTS ARE EARNING AN INCOME
- COMMUNITY HAS TAKEN OWNERSHIP
- COMMUNITY PRIDE
- NO VANDALISM
- MINIMUM MAINTENANCE/ REPAIRS
- OTHER COMMUNITY LEADERS IN WESBANK ENQUIRING ABOUT FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN THEIR BLOCKS
- NEW EXPERIENCE FOR VISITORS TO THESE FACILITIES
- MOTIVATE US AS PROJECT MANAGERS TO KEEP IMPROVING



#### **WESBANK – THE RESULT**

# IT'S NOT THE CHANGES THAT ONE MAKES, BUT THE QUALITY OF THE CHANGES THAT IMPROVES ATTITUDES, SITUATIONS AND LIVES





#### **Thank You**

Making progress possible. Together.