

CULTURAL HERITAGE THEME SITE VERIFICATION REPORT PROPOSED DUALLING OF MAIN ROAD 201 BETWEEN N1 AND KLIPRUG ROAD, PAARL, WESTERN CAPE.

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Prepared For

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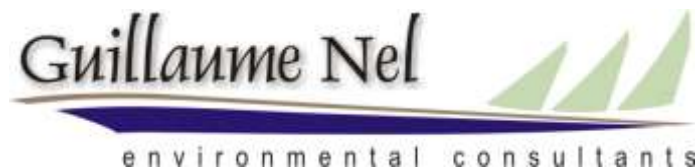
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1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

Guillaume Nel Environmental Consultants (GNEC) has been appointed by the Western Cape Government: Department of Transport and Public Works to facilitate the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Basic Assessment and Water Use Licence Application process for the proposed dualling of Main Road 201 from the N1 to Kliprug Road, Paarl, Western Cape.

A Screening Tool Report has been generated for the proposed development. According to the screening tool report the Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme has a “High sensitivity” rating. Therefore, this site sensitivity verification report is compiled to determine whether a Heritage Impact Assessment is required for the proposed development.

1.2 Background

Main Road 201 (also referred to as the R301) originates in the Breede River Valley, with the Km 0.00 marker being located at the intersection with the R46. MR201 extends through the Haweqwa Nature Reserve with the Bainskloof Pass being located within the nature reserve. MR 201 then extends through the towns of Wellington and Paarl before transecting the N1 roadway and terminating at the intersection with the R45 (close to the small community of Wemmershoek). MR201 largely supports one lane in each direction, with the amount of lanes increasing to two lanes in each direction in the urban areas. MR201 is entirely located within the Cape Winelands District Municipality; while sections of the road are located within the Witzenberg, Breede Valley, Drakenstein and Stellenbosch local municipalities.

MR201 is an important connecting roadway between Paarl and Franschhoek. MR201 is one of two roadways which can be utilised in order to reach Franschhoek. Travellers living outside of the Paarl-Franschhoek valley also make use of MR201 and the R45 as a gateway to regional areas which include the Overberg, Cape Agulhas and Garden Route areas.

The town of Paarl, supporting important business and education sectors, have led to the town experiencing a steady influx of permanent residents. It should be mentioned that Paarl is home to a total of 55 schools which automatically attracts large volumes of permanent residents as well as traffic volumes.

Numerous large scale private residential and lifestyle estates have also been developed South of the N1 which has resulted in an increased amount of vehicular movement on MR201. A number of residential estates have also recently been approved in the area that should still be constructed. Development of the approved residential estates will increase the amount of road users and hence traffic volumes. Please refer to Figure 3 below for an indication of the current and future residential estates along MR 201.

The increased traffic volumes will result in increased travelling times being experienced. In order to better accommodate the current and future traffic volumes, as well as to ensure the safety of

road users, it is proposed that MR201 be converted into a dual carriageway. The proposed works will also entail the upgrading and expansion of existing stormwater structures.

1.3 Location

The proposed development entails the conversion of MR201 to a dual carriageway, as well as the upgrading and expansion of the existing stormwater infrastructure. The applicable section of the MR201 roadway starts approximately 145 metres south of the N1 roadway and terminates approximately 320 metres south of Kliprug Minor Road.

The proposed dualling of MR 201 will result in the proposed development taking place outside of the current registered road reserve. It is proposed that the road reserve width vary between 40 to 50 metres.

Please refer to Figure 1 below for a copy of the locality map, as well as to Figure 2 below for a copy of an aerial image of the proposed site.





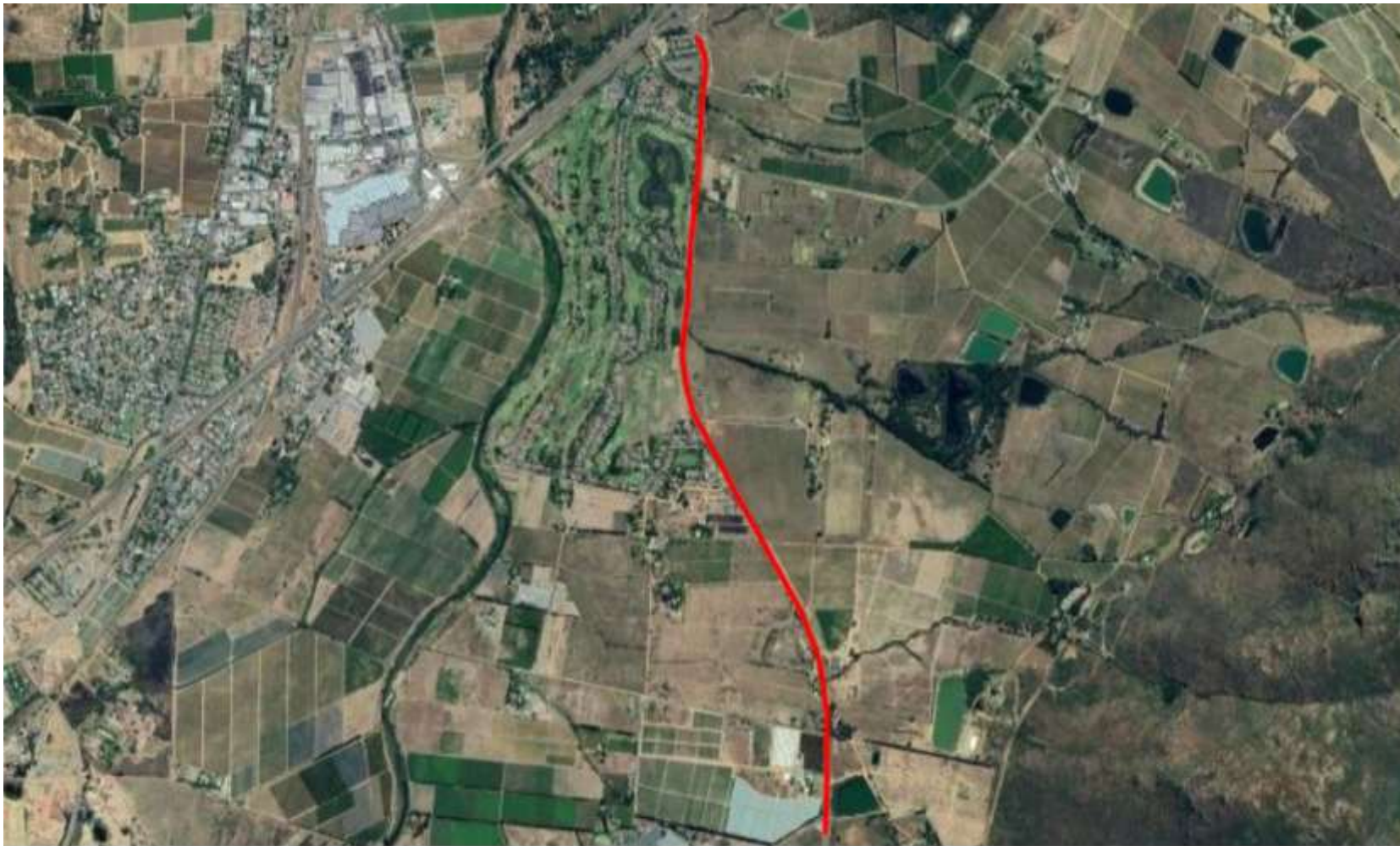
Main Road 201, Paarl	 Tel: (021) 870 1874 Fax: 086 6933 802 Cell: 072 1571 321	
Locality Map		

FIGURE 1 LOCALITY MAP OF THE PROPOSED DUALLING OF MAIN ROAD 201, PAARL



Main Road 201, Paarl	 Tel: (021) 870 1874 Fax: 086 6933 802 Cell: 072 1571 321	
Aerial Image		

FIGURE 2 AERIAL IMAGE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT SITE

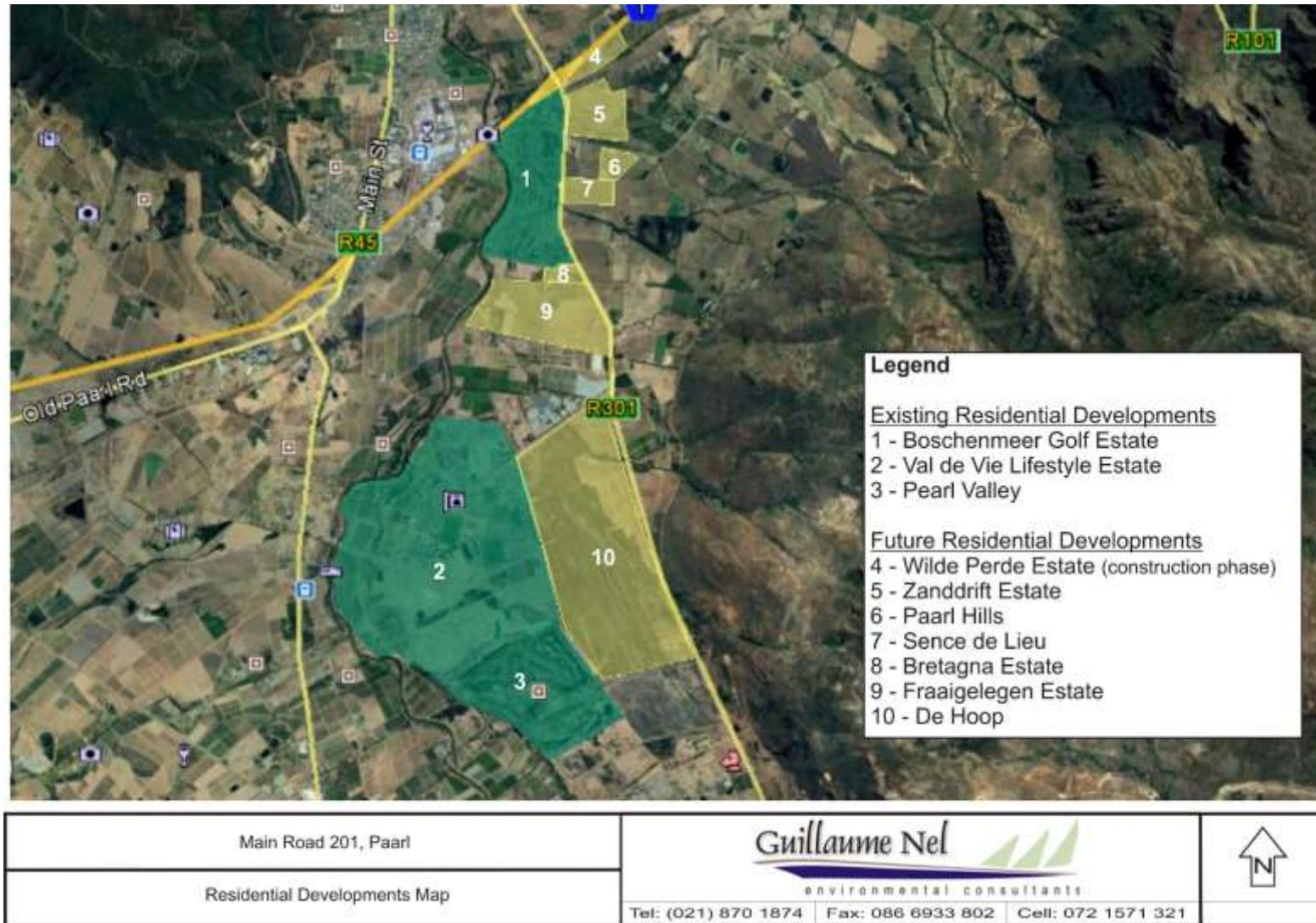


FIGURE 3 EXISTING AND FUTURE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS ALONG MR 201

2. OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT SITE

The vast majority of the proposed development site is an existing surfaced road within a registered road reserve. It is proposed that the dualling of MR201 be extend outside of the existing registered road reserve. The widening of the road reserve will be to the East of the road.

The area South of the N1 is currently experiencing tremendous growth with various development proposals approved alongside MR201, as indicated in Figure 3 above. Additionally, a section of the area South of the N1 is located within the urban edge. Therefore, the majority of the dualling will take place within the urban edge which is earmarked for development.

It is also important to note that the development proposal is the dualling of an existing roadway. The proposed development will therefore result in land adjacent to the existing road reserve being incorporated. The proposed development site has been severely altered from its natural state. Additionally, no formal buildings will be impacted on by the proposed development.

4. SITE INSPECTION

During the site inspection, it was clear that the properties adjacent to Main Road 201 is altered from its natural state. Numerous residential developments are present or is currently being constructed. No graves or any other archaeological and palaeontological sites were visible on the proposed development site.

The proposed development entails the dualling of an existing road. The majority of the proposed development site is therefore an existing road reserve; while the adjacent areas have also been altered from its natural state.



FIGURE 5 INDICATION OF THE ADJACENT DISTURBANCE FROM THE EXISTING REGISTERED ROAD RESERVE



FIGURE 4 EXISTING ALIEN INVASIVE VEGETATION ADJACENT TO MR201

5. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT

Due to the nature of the site and the proposed development being a linear activity longer than 300 metres, GNEC submitted a Notice of Intent to Develop (NID) application to Heritage Western Cape (HWC) in terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Western Cape Provincial Gazette 6061, Notice 298 of 2003.

The application was made to obtain confirmation from Heritage Western Cape on whether the proposed development will impact on any heritage resources. The NID was submitted on the 26th of April 2019 with a formal response received on the 7th of May 2019. Subsequently, Heritage Western Cape's response was that "since there is no reason to believe that the [proposed development] will impact on heritage resources, no further action under Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) is required".

Therefore, it is not expected that the proposed development will impact on any heritage resources. The proposed development will have an insignificant impact on palaeontology and archaeology resources.

In addition to the above, an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) has been compiled for the proposed development. The EMPr includes numerous mitigation measures to ensure that the proposed development does not impact on any heritage resources. Mitigations are also put in place to ensure the necessary measures will be taken should any palaeontological resources be discovered on the proposed development site. This is however highly unlikely.

It is therefore clear the proposed development will have an **insignificant** impact on heritage resources.

Due consideration has been given to the potential impact of the proposed development on any heritage resources. It is GNEC's professional opinion that all factors regarding the Heritage theme has been taken into account in this site sensitivity verification report. Therefore, as the proposed development will not have any impact on heritage resources, no additional assessments or compliance statements are required for the proposed development.

6. CONCLUSION OF HERITAGE THEME VERIFICATION

Guillaume Nel Environmental Consultants (GNEC) has been appointed by the Western Cape Government: Department of Transport and Public Works to facilitate the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) - Basic Assessment and Water Use Licence Application process for the proposed dualling of Main Road 201 from the N1 to Kliprug Road, Paarl.

A Screening Tool Report has been generated for the proposed development. According to the screening tool report the Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme has a “High sensitivity” rating. Therefore, this site sensitivity verification report was compiled to determine whether a Heritage Impact Assessment is required for the proposed development.

From the site verification report it is very clear that the proposed development will have an **insignificant** impact on heritage resources.

In addition to the above, an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) has been compiled for the proposed development. The EMPr includes numerous mitigation measures to ensure that the proposed development does not impact on any heritage resources. Mitigations are also put in place to ensure the necessary measures will be taken should any palaeontological resources be discovered on the proposed development site. This is however highly unlikely.

Due consideration has been given to the potential impact of the proposed development on heritage resources. It is GNEC’s professional opinion that all factors regarding the heritage theme has been taken into account in this site sensitivity verification report. Therefore, as the proposed development will have an insignificant impact on heritage resources, it is not required for a Heritage Impact Assessment to be compiled, as was confirmed by Heritage Western Cape (HWC).

4. REFERENCES

Department of Environmental Affairs. 2020. Screening Tool Report for the proposed dualling of Main Road 201.