PROVINCIAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT FORUM

The forum has been set up to discuss planning and environmental matters with Minister Bredell and DEA&DP, and to explore ways of shortening some of the approval processes. It meets quarterly under the chairmanship of Alwyn Laubscher. Apart from the Minister and representatives from DEA&DP, the following organisations attended the most recent meeting of the forum: International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA), South African Geomatics Institute (SAGI), South African Association of Professional Planners (SAACPP), South African Planning Institute (SAPI), South African Property Owners Association (SAPOA), Western Cape Property Development Forum (WCPDF) and SAICE.

If SAICE members have any issues they would like the Forum to deal with, they are welcome to forward these to Steve Fanner (fanner@telkomsa.net).

For information: some notes from the meeting of 06 September 2011:

Noted with sadness, the passing of Rudi Ellis.

Some members have been delegated to investigate in greater depth:

- Procedural Bureaucracy and Time lines will be investigated and reported on - SAACPP - M Job
- Legislation, Regulations and Policy will be scrutinised to identify problem areas - SAPI – M Hutton-Squire
- Investigation into inefficient management structures and procedures and table recommendations - SAGI - D Hellig
- Investigation onto shortcomings in the Communication Systems - IAIA - F Venturi
- Investigation into need for legal opinions to interpret various examples of case law - WCPDF - D v Zyl

PSDF: eventually comments were received from eleven persons/organisations. Mr Chris Rabie will be involved in a re-draft in the new financial year to exclude any unnecessary aspects and to also eliminate non-provincial matters, and hopes to end up with a smaller document. The well-researched and documented material of the existing PSDF will not be discarded, but retained as reference work.

SAICE members should be on the lookout for the re-draft of the PSDF when that is published for comment.

Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Bill, 2011

Here, too, SAICE members should be on the lookout for the re-draft when that is published for comment.

Comment: If the Province has a vision of infrastructure-led economic development, it should be well prepared and in a state of readiness to take advantage of any upswing in the economy that could lead to rapid investment by the private sector.