



Everyone says they want a clean Yeoville Bellevue. Are you part of the problem or part of the solution?

Yeovue news

Free to all

your news your views

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Social Charter process in Yeoville Bellevue

The Yeoville Bellevue Community Development Trust (YBCDT) has employed the Cooperative for Research and Education (CORE) to assist in the process of developing a Social Charter for development in Yeoville Bellevue.

People have been talking about development in Yeoville Bellevue since 1995. Since then, some work has been done, but the community continues to face a number of challenges. These include crime, unemployment, a housing crisis, anti-social behaviour such as littering and urinating in the street, abuse of alcohol and drugs, domestic violence and other socio-economic problems.

The community has attempted over the years to organise itself to address these issues, with some successes. But the area still lacks an overall development plan which will lead to the establishment of Yeoville Bellevue as a sustainable community offering a reasonable quality of life for all.

In 2009, the Yeoville Bellevue Community Development Trust

What is the YBCDT?

The YBCDT is a non-governmental organisation established by Yeoville Bellevue resident Maurice Smithers after 12 years of working in community organisations in the area. Although many of the goals of the YBCDT are the same as those of the Yeoville Stakeholders Forum (YSF), they are two different and independent organisations.

The main aim of the YBCDT is to help to make development happen in Yeoville Bellevue. It cannot do this alone and therefore aims to work with all interested organisations in the area. It also works closely with local government on the understanding that development is a government responsibility and organisations such as the YBCDT can only assist with making it happen. The YBCDT produces Yeovue News.

(YBCDT), a non-governmental organisation (NGO) focusing on holistic community development was set up. The establishment of the YBCDT has been funded through the Johannesburg Development Agency (JDA) and the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA).

In late 2010, the DBSA asked the YBCDT to undertake a Social Charter process in Yeoville Bellevue because the DBSA would like to work with a united community.

What is a Social Charter?

A Social Charter is an agreement supported and signed by a range of stakeholders within a particular community. A Social Charter can be drawn up around any issue that is important to that community.

In Yeoville Bellevue, the kind of Social Charter that CORE is working for is an agreement between community members, organisations, government departments, business, development agencies and others on the need for development in the area. The Social Charter can include the type of development that people would like to see. It can also suggest how the development process should be carried out.

The important thing is to get a shared view, one which everyone is prepared to work towards. Otherwise development will be piecemeal and development efforts can be slowed down or stopped because of conflict in the community.

What is CORE's mandate?

CORE's mandate is to consult as many people and organisations in the Yeoville Bellevue community as possible. This includes NGOs, community-based organisations (CBOs), faith-based

institutions, educational institutions, political parties, youth groups, sports associations, cultural groups, business groupings, migrant bodies - anyone who is part of the community and has an interest in seeing the area improve and develop.

They will also be talking to departments in the City of Johannesburg, to the SAPS and possibly to some departments in the Gauteng Provincial Government.

Once the consultation is over, they will take all the information they have gathered and develop a draft Social Charter. The draft Social Charter will focus on the common issues that have been put forward by the various stakeholders.

The draft Social Charter will then be shared with the community in meetings and discussion groups and developed further. The final version of the Social Charter should be something that the majority of stakeholders in the area, including government structures responsible for working in the area, are willing to sign as a common vision for the future of Yeoville Bellevue.

The Social Charter will set out a way forward for development in the area. It will help the community to get resources for development because government and other development agencies will know what they are supporting if they are asked to assist.

If you or your organisation is interested in sharing your views on this important matter, you can contact CORE directly at the following telephone number or email them using the following address:

Tel: 011 8369942

Email: corejhb@mail.ngo.za

You can also visit CORE's website at www.corejhb.org.za to find out more about the organisation and other work they have done.

How was CORE selected?

The YBCDT placed an advert in the December issue of Yeovue News, calling on interested community facilitators or service providers to apply to carry out the Social Charter process. Five applications were submitted. The applications were evaluated and the Board of Trustees of the YBCDT agreed that CORE should be given the job.

Letters to the editor

Hi YN

I would like to express my concern about the illegal behavior of some of the police and Street Patrollers in our community Yeoville Bellevue. I am aware that when I say things like this, the question pops up: 'Do you have proof?' But you and I know nobody walks around with spy cameras trying to catch some of that action.

I believe the biggest criminal is someone who is given the power to fight crime, but instead they misuse that power to become what I call 'justified' criminals. And 'justified' criminals are worse than other criminals because they are abusing the trust that is put in them by government and by the people. It is because of them that people say: 'I don't trust the police' or 'You must have so many rands ready (to pay bribes) when you see the Street Patrollers coming.'

And, really, I'm not saying all police or patrollers are bad. I am sure it is only a few. But we must all do what we can to help to root out the bad ones. We know them as much as the SAPS always say we the people know the criminals who live in the community. Well, we also know the 'justified' ones.

All criminals must face the law and remember that these days, thanks to technology, even the President is on Facebook and Twitter, so criminals must not think we can't send him MMSes and e-mails.

The point I'm trying to make is people should know that they have power in their hands. It's either you become the victim of crooked police or you win over the good ones and we all have witnessed the power of people when they stand together against those who misuse their authority, for example in places like Khutsong, Libya and Egypt.

My message: stop being a victim and fight crime for a better tomorrow.

Joseph Setloboko, Yeoville Bellevue

Dear Editor,

So much is being done to make Yeoville a pleasant place to live in. Rocky Street has changed greatly in the past year with renovations shaping up the area and, according to the SAPS report which was published in Yeovue News, crime is coming.

I have a concern as a resident in Yeoville. Inasmuch as spaza shops are helpful, there are some who are ripping off the community. I had an encounter with a spaza shop owner who operates along Bezuidenhout between Jolly Street and Natal Street. I wanted to buy airtime for R5 and when I got there the owner of the shop told me he charges R5.50. I

asked him if Vodacom knew that that's what he is charging and he got physical and manhandled me out of his shop. He even bragged about selling R5 airtime for R7 in Newcastle.

I wonder how many people have encountered such a situation and what one should do about it. Is it the consumer council or who should we report this to?

Anonymous, Yeoville Bellevue



Dear Yeovue News

I don't understand why people are throwing things down on the street everywhere.

Please use the dustbins so we can all live in a nice, clean place.

Thobeka Mabaso, Yeoville Community School

In the news

In her State of the Province speech a few weeks ago, Gauteng Premier Nomvula Mokonyane said that she is very concerned about the problem of alcohol in the province. One of the things she would like to do is stop the selling of alcohol on Sundays.

Hanging washing on fences, on balconies and outside windows of flats is going to be banned by the City of Johannesburg. Members of the public can comment before 16 March. Speak to your local councillor or to someone at the Region F offices at CJ Cronje Building, 80 Loveday Street. Tel: 011 3768600.

Info from The Times newspaper.

Not in the news, but did you know?

The new Supabets sports gambling place has already been robbed. It is not yet clear how many people were involved or how much was stolen. Yeoville SAPS are investigating.



CITY OF JOHANNESBURG INVITATION TO A REGIONAL SUMMIT

The Speaker of the City of Johannesburg invites you to a regional summit for Region F.

The summit will discuss the following:

- Public participation opportunities in the City of Johannesburg
- Feedback on projects taking place in the various Wards
- Information regarding Stakeholder summit and how to make IDP inputs

Date: Saturday, 12 March 2011

Venue: Yeoville Recreation Centre

Time: 08h00 – 15h00

For further information please contact:

Lijeng Mbuli – 011 681 8092 / 083 763 0235
Sharon Louw – 011 376 8618 / 083 406 9962

This is one of a number of regional summits. When all regional summits are done, there will be a city-wide summit

Adverts

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Fridges (all types); washing machines
microwave; cold rooms
ice cream machines

Call Dumie (technician) on 0799071046 or 0748449970

Flat for sale: R340 000.00

Light and sunny north-facing 2-bed flat for sale in Yeoville, (85 sq m) with private garden and store room.

Friendly building. Common garden area with braai facility; safe for children. Excellent security. 082 744 3882 or 011 648 5235

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Fumigation without a smell. Non-poisonous to humans and animals. Six months guarantee. Phone Timothy on 083 6712359

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Email: yeovue.news@yeoville.org.za