

Operation and Maintenance of services in the settlements of the District Management Area

The following services are rendered by the District Municipality in the three settlements namely Riemvasmaak Vredesvallei, Riemvasmaak Mission and Swartkopdam.

- a) Maintaining of the bulk and internal Water services;*
- b) Maintaining of the Ventilated Improved Pit latrines;*
- c) Removing of the refuse on a two-weekly basis.*

For this the District Municipality is using a small contractor. The person gets appointed on an annual basis and uses 4 persons everytime that he removes the refuse. The refuse is weighed every quarter in order to keep track of the tonnage which gets removed annually.

There are waste sites in all three settlements.

Water problems are experienced in the summer times and the district has to transport water to the Mission area and Swartkopdam. This is due to lowering of the water levels in the boreholes. New projects for Mission (33km water pipeline) and Swartkopdam (Equipping new boreholes and desalination plant) will start soon to eliminate the transporting of water to these areas.

d) Furthermore the district maintain the TV towers in both the Riemvasmaak settlements. The 4 major channels (SABC 1, SABC 2, SABC 3 AND e-TV) are provided.

e) Other services include the maintenance of the cemeteries and council buildings

f) Very occasionally the grading of the gravel streets.

Traffic in these areas are very low but the council has budgeted for a tractor and tow-behind grader do make use of private companies to render this service as the need arises. For the New Year we have planned to purchase a tow-on grader and tractor with which we can blade the roads in the two settlements of Riemvasmaak and Swartkopdam.

Other functions which the council also provides for in its annual budget are:

- *Maintenance of the gravel streets, cemeteries and sport fields in Mier and Kheis municipal areas*
- *Subsidies for which the farm owners in the area can apply.*

These subsidies include the

- a. Connecting water so that it is available within the farm worker's homes;
- b. Supplying a hot water facility;
- c. Construction of a toilet facility and
- d. Solar power where ESKOM electricity is not available.