Pedestrian safety in focus

GUGU BLOSE

PEDESTRIAN safety will be a major focus of National Public Transport month in eThekwini.

“We will be stepping up our pedestrian safety campaign all over the city,” said Ashok Naidoo, the Transport Authority (ETA).

Rather than concentrating on one intersection, as this campaign did in the past, the focus this month is on pedestrian routes within the city centre. Road safety staff are educating pedestrians on how to cross roads and on general road safety.

Also this month, the ETA will continue with its household travel survey, aimed at improving the transport system by tracking local travel patterns.

Residents of Durban North, Sydenham, Marisandish, Demat, Nagina, Caversham Glen and KwaMakutha have been urged to open their doors to official enumerators displaying the correct ID tags. Call 031 312 2006 with any queries.

chiefs told to work closely with councillors

SIYABONGA MAPHUMULO

THE MEC for Local Government and Traditional Affairs Mike Mahiyakhulu has reminded traditional leaders of their role in ensuring that development occurs in their areas. He was addressing scores of amakhosi who attended the ceremony for the first phase of the Mnini housing project.

“Amakhosi need to be in line with councillors and the municipality what they can offer the community what they can do to ensure that development occurs in their areas,” Mahiyakhulu said.

Siyabonga Maphumulo

Yebo Gogo! R70m in housing

SYIABONGA MAPHUMULO

At 93, KRISTINA Nomvelo Malinga is no spring chicken. She relies on her walking cane and her granddaughter for support when making a trip from the family’s one-room living room – a ronaveld to her sleeping quarters, a dilapidated and dwelling a few metres away.

Gogo Malinga’s problems of a leaky corrugated iron roof were taken a step further by the recent rains, which also took a portion of her wall. But the old-timer knows her fortunes are changing.

A R70-million housing project is in its inception stages at Mnini, near Umgababa.

This is where Gogo Malinga has lived for the past eight decades and her name ranks high on the list of the recipients of the first phase of the Mnini housing project.

Although the project is yet to be rolled out, Gogo Malinga is nearly ready.

The four-roomed house, the first of 2,000 to be built in the area in coming months, was built in three weeks.

“We built Gogo Malinga’s house first because she is obviously an extremely deserving case and also because we wanted to use it as a model to show the community what they can expect when the project rolls out to other areas such as Mgobhobhobi, Amagcino, Ethlanzeni, Magabheni and Danzangi,” said the local councilor, Stanley Xulu.

Xulu said the houses, which come complete with a tiled roof and plastered walls are a joint initiative between the municipality and the municipality.

He said the aim was to build 5,000 houses at Mnini. And because the houses are free, said the councilor, the largely lower-income residents of the area and pensioners such as Gogo Malinga do not have to worry about bond repayments.

An initial 400 houses will be built in each of the five areas in the first phase and these will be added on as the project progresses,” said Xulu.

Besides providing much needed housing, it is hoped the project will revive Mnini, which in some sections is still characterised by burnt-down homes, the aftermath of the political violence that ravaged the area in the early 1990s.

Gogo Malinga is happy that her sleeping routine will no longer be disturbed by water trickling through her roof.

“I will now sleep to my heart’s content, on some days I might choose to wake up at midday and on others I’ll simply sleep until the sun goes down,” quipped the nongeniyan.

Leeds helps green townships

PHUMILA BHODZO

ETHEKWINI’S UK sister city, Leeds last week donated more than R63 million, to deserving community projects and schools in the metro.

Mayor Brian Cleasby, first lady, Jocelyn Cleasby, and other Leeds delegates, visited Bonela Secondary in Mayville, and Mzvele High in KwaMashu, and donated R75 250 each to each.

And Denise Preston, Chief Recreation Officer of the Leeds Council, and Charles Watkinson, Chief Executive of

Corrocos, as well as other Leeds companies and communities, donated more than R68 780 to the Esidweni Permaculture Project, in Umbagaba.

Meanwhile, a memorandum of understanding has been signed between the City and Leeds. It spells out the co-operation between the cities for a joint entry to the Chelsea Flower Show in May 2009.

Watkinson said: “We are proud to be the sponsors of these projects were our donations can make a significant difference.”

Adrian Strain, Head of International Relations in Leeds, said the 1,500 fruit trees were being planted across eThekwini.

“The four-roomed house, the first of 2,000 to be built in the area in coming months, was built in three weeks.

Leeds has pledged £1.5 million to help the community in Esidweni.

The four-roomed house, the first of 2,000 to be built in the area in coming months, was built in three weeks.

Leeds has pledged £1.5 million to help the community in Esidweni.

The four-roomed house, the first of 2,000 to be built in the area in coming months, was built in three weeks.

Leeds has pledged £1.5 million to help the community in Esidweni.

The four-roomed house, the first of 2,000 to be built in the area in coming months, was built in three weeks.

Leeds has pledged £1.5 million to help the community in Esidweni.

The four-roomed house, the first of 2,000 to be built in the area in coming months, was built in three weeks.

Leeds has pledged £1.5 million to help the community in Esidweni.

The four-roomed house, the first of 2,000 to be built in the area in coming months, was built in three weeks.

Leeds has pledged £1.5 million to help the community in Esidweni.

The four-roomed house, the first of 2,000 to be built in the area in coming months, was built in three weeks.

Leeds has pledged £1.5 million to help the community in Esidweni.

The four-roomed house, the first of 2,000 to be built in the area in coming months, was built in three weeks.

Leeds has pledged £1.5 million to help the community in Esidweni.

The four-roomed house, the first of 2,000 to be built in the area in coming months, was built in three weeks.

Leeds has pledged £1.5 million to help the community in Esidweni.

The four-roomed house, the first of 2,000 to be built in the area in coming months, was built in three weeks.

Leeds has pledged £1.5 million to help the community in Esidweni.

The four-roomed house, the first of 2,000 to be built in the area in coming months, was built in three weeks.

Leeds has pledged £1.5 million to help the community in Esidweni.

The four-roomed house, the first of 2,000 to be built in the area in coming months, was built in three weeks.

Leeds has pledged £1.5 million to help the community in Esidweni.

The four-roomed house, the first of 2,000 to be built in the area in coming months, was built in three weeks.

Leeds has pledged £1.5 million to help the community in Esidweni.