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## MONTHLY ARTICLE

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# MPUMALANGA BUSINESS HIVE

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The eThekweni Municipality proposes to initiate a new project within the Mpumalanga region in KwaZulu-Natal, aiming to boost the local area's current economic development. Mpumalanga falls within eThekweni Municipality, forming one of six sub-places within the Outer West planning region. The proposed site is on the border of the eThekweni Integrated Rapid Public Transport Network (Corridor 6), which suggests increased accessibility to other industrial and business centres and evidence of its ideal location

The objective of the project is to assist with the development of Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises (SMMEs), which forms an integral part of the Township Regeneration Strategy for Mpumalanga/Hammersdale. Political violence and industrial relocations in the early 1980s has hampered the development of SMMEs in the area. The overall objective is to initiate income-generating activities resulting in economic growth and job creation (Urban-Econ, 2014).



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**"SMALL, MICRO, AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SMMES) PLAY A  
MAJOR ROLE IN THE ECONOMY IN TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT  
CREATION, INCOME GENERATION, AND OUTPUT GROWTH"  
URBAN-ECON, 2014**

# A SUSTAINABLE PROJECT TO BE ROLLED OUT BY THE ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY



MAY 2021



The developer has taken a sustainable approach to the project by engaging Hanslab (Pty) Ltd as the EAP to undertake the application for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended in 2017). The development will form one component of the proposed mixed-use development.

The project team from the eThekweni Municipality were eager to accommodate the buffers recommended by specialists to minimise the potential impact to sensitive areas within the development footprint. Potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) were notified of the impending development using various means, including advertising in a local newspaper and the placement of site notices. They were encouraged to register as I&APs during the notification period. The application is currently in the draft phase and will be distributed to key stakeholders and registered I&APs to comment within a mandatory 30 day period. Thereafter, the comments and concerns received will be addressed, and the application for the EA will be submitted for a decision from the Department.

[WWW.HANSLAB.CO.ZA](http://WWW.HANSLAB.CO.ZA)

**Hanslab (Pty) Ltd is fortunate to have the opportunity to contribute to a project that promotes sustainable development.**

REFERENCES: URBAN-ECON DEVELOPMENT ECONOMISTS, 2014, MPUMALANGA  
BUSINESS HIVE FEASIBILITY STUDY.  
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