

# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

15 February 2009

Parkmore Community Association Incorporated under Section 21 Reg. No.1999/025688/08 PO Box 650508 Benmore 2010



## “PROUD CONTRIBUTING MEMBER” SIGNS

The PCA has sourced 320x300mm signs at R50 each, to be stuck on contributing member's property wall with a reflective street number underneath. We think it looks great and fulfills a request by residents at last month's Community Meeting. If "the spirit moves you" to pay for your own sign, please let us know?



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## TAXIS IN PARKMORE

A number of residents have asked why we have taxis parking in Parkmore. Unfortunately taxis are generally regarded as a threat by many people and we often react to their driving liberties with rage. We have to recognise that the taxi industry is a fundamental part of the South African economy. Taxis move 72% of the Johannesburg population every day, and that includes your domestic and workers in Parkmore. Taxis are not going to go away!

Part of the challenges of the taxi industry in Gauteng is that the taxi routes and licensing is authorised by the Provincial Government while the CoJ Council has no power to control its presence. Hopefully this is to change shortly. The taxi rank on 11th Street and Elizabeth Ave is illegal, and so are 15 others in Joburg. CoJ tells us that they are working on the matter.

With the increase in taxis numbers on 11th Street, JMPD instructed them to move and 'park' on the Marie Avenue servitude between 12th and 11th Streets. Please understand that this site is not a taxi rank. The gents simply park their vehicles there in their quiet times.

The PCA has meet with the Greater Joburg Taxi Association, had discussions with Transportation and JRA (Joburg Roads Agency) and is in constant contact with JMPD. Our latest engagement is with Pikitup and City Parks to have more rubbish bins located on the site and even create gardens at the 11th Street intersection. We will need sponsorship from residents to take this garden project to implementation.

Joburg Property Company has installed a security guard 24/7 on the Marie Ave/10th-11th Street grassed park space and he will watch the activities, illegal dumping and report any unwanted behaviour to us.

Taxis are here to stay, so we have to work at managing the situation in an non-confrontational manner, and the PCA believes strongly that we are establishing a win-win solution to this and other issues.

## STREET PARTIES

The PCA will be having a party on your block in which residents can come out onto their street closed for the occasion, mingle and get to know each other, dance, braai, let the children play and ride their bicycles, have fun. We thought Fridays or Sundays 16:00-19:00 would be best, and person is needed to volunteer to organise your street block. Let's hear from you please.



The happy Parkmore folk at a Get-together of residents on 14th Street between Olympia and Hilda Ave (without Julian taking the photo)

## LANDUSE AND REZONING

Your PCA representative together with concerned residents (thanks Molly and Keith) attended the CoJ Planning Committee Tribunals last month to "consider the application for rezoning" of number of sites in Parkmore.

These included:-

❖ Erf 1058, 116 4th Street - the PCA had objected to MKB constructing an office building four years back without permission and disregard for the RSDF. However, with the updating amendments to the RSDF, the building now conforms, and the PCA supported the rezoning Res1 to Bus4 application;

❖ Erf 377, 85 10th Street - the application was to rezone this residence on the corner of 10th Street and Marie Ave to "Special" with Office use. You can all see the house has been renovated into a operating business - even the facade advertises the business. We took expectation to the blatant misleading claims made by the applicant's town planner. Town Planning did reject the application, which will tell people that they cannot have offices along Marie Avenue;

❖ Erf 1409, 128 4th Street is zoned for Bus4 and they applied for increased office floor area ratio and high density residential. It will be interesting to see how that is decided.