

Municipality and South Cape College sign agreement to advance further education

Knysna Municipality and South Cape College have signed an agreement that will pave the way for the establishment of a skills development centre in Knysna, expanding access to further education and skills development in the town.

This follows Council's decision to make portions of Erf 3801 and Erf 3805 available to South Cape College for the establishment of the centre. The intention to donate the property was subsequently advertised for public participation and no comments or objections were received during the advertising period.

The agreement provides South Cape College with an opportunity to develop the site for educational purposes. The college will carry all costs associated with the subdivision, rezoning and registration of the property.

Knysna Acting Municipal Manager Boy Ngubo said the agreement represents an important investment in the future of the town and its people. "This is a significant milestone for Knysna. Education creates opportunities, and by making municipal land available for a skills development centre, Council is investing in the future of our residents and in the continued development of our town.

"Knysna's location and role as a regional centre make it well suited to accommodate further educational facilities," he continued. "We want to see more opportunities for people to study, gain practical skills and prepare themselves for employment and entrepreneurship without having to leave the area. This agreement brings us closer to making that a reality."

The property, situated in Boswerker Street in Ward 9, currently has limited use. The municipal report indicates that the municipality has no other future intended use for the portions of the properties earmarked for the development.

"Council has made a deliberate decision to support education by making this land available. We are looking beyond the immediate use of the property and considering what it can mean for Knysna over the longer term. A skills development centre can become an important part of our town's educational landscape," said Ngubo.

The establishment of the centre also creates an opportunity to strengthen the relationship between the municipality and South Cape College and to support broader efforts to expand education, training and skills development in the area.

"The signing is an important first step, but it is the opportunities that follow that matter most. We look forward to seeing this project develop and to the positive impact it can have on learners, young people and the wider Knysna community," Ngubo concluded.

The municipality and South Cape College will now proceed with the processes required for the development and transfer of the property.

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