



31 May 2016

Press statement: What are the strings attached to the Tafelberg sale?

This morning Jacqui Gooch, Head of Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works, indicated for the first time that there were conditions attached to the development and use of the Tafelberg site, in Sea Point. The comments were made at a committee meeting at Provincial Legislature this morning.

The tender specifications for the sale of Tafelberg indicated that the site would go to the highest bidder. Apart from heritage considerations, there appeared to be no development strings attached.

The site, roughly the size of two rugby fields, is currently zoned for medium to high density general residential and business development. We have argued that the site should not have been sold without conditions for affordable housing development.

The sale of Tafelberg was reversed by a settlement, made an order an order of court, on 5 May 2016. The public now have until 9 June to make submissions and object to the Province's proposed disposal of the property. Supporters for affordable housing development on Tafelberg, and the public at large, need to be properly informed to comment meaningfully on the proposed disposal.

In light of Gooch's comments, Premier Helen Zille's government must come clean about the conditions, if there are any, for the development of the site.

Issued by the Ndifuna Ukwazi

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