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Public Benefit Organisation ref no 93000280
Non-profit Organisation ref no 56-033
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May 28, 2021

To whom it may concern,

Re: Support for the OCA review application

The Friends of the Liesbeek are fully in support of the review application being brought by the Observatory Civic Association. The OCA has, over time, highlighted many shortcomings in the processes followed by the authorities and the developers and we believe that these concerns ought to be given due consideration in open court.

Contrary to the statement in the Environmental Authorisation that "All the concerns raised by I&APs were responded to and adequately addressed during the public participation process," we do not believe that all concerns raised during these processes were adequately addressed. In fact, many valid concerns previously raised were ignored or set aside. We are further of the opinion that the concerns raised around climate-change impact and resilience were not given serious consideration; that there was a failure consider the serious implications of the loss of open green-space and therefore a failure to mitigate the anticipated high negative biodiversity impact, as well as in no way acknowledging the habitat loss of a high faunal sensitivity in a proclaimed Protected Area.

We would therefore like it to be noted that we are in strong support of the OCA's application.

Yours faithfully

Trevor Hughes
Vice-Chair: Friends of the Liesbeek Committee
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