OBSERVATORY
Civic Association

60 Trill Road
Observatory
7925
21st February 2023

Dear Councillor Mohamed

I am sure you are aware that there was flash flooding in Lower Observatory yesterday on Monday 20th Feb in Ossian Road, adjacent to Hartleyvale. These floods occurred following a brief episode of rain which was short-lived and nowhere near the volume of rainfall that normally triggers flooding around the Liesbeek River. The Liesbeek River also overflowed its banks at the Rosebank Common. The overflow of the water channel alongside Ossian Road and the flooding of the Common is the first time in living memory that the River has overflowed to this extent.

I include below some photos of the flooding.

For many Observatory residents, this development confirms what many have been saying about the downstream River Club development adversely impacting on the stormwater functions in the suburb and that the development is likely to aggravate flooding of the surrounding areas, particularly given the ageing infrastructure in the suburb.

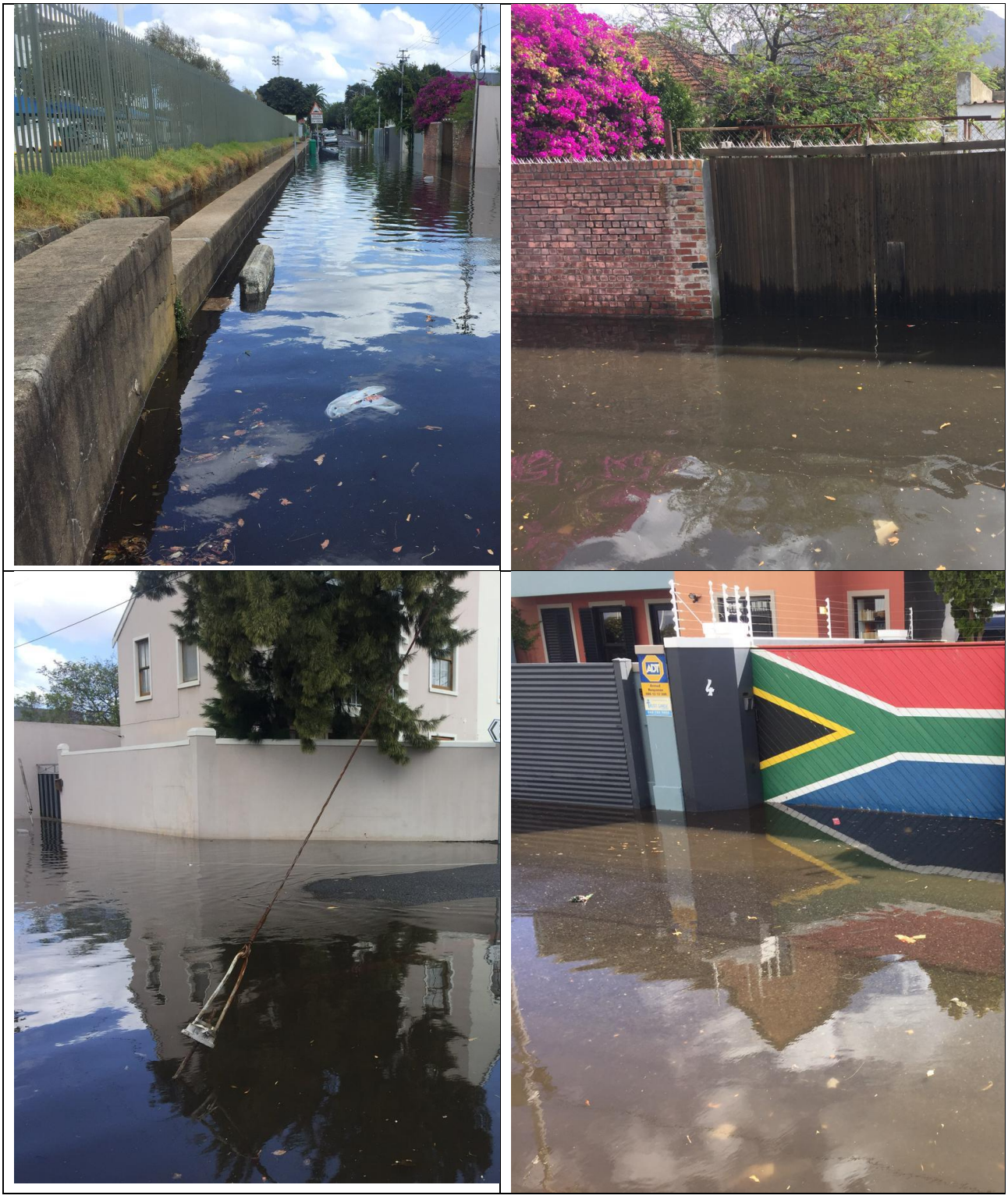
Can you advise if the City will investigate and report back to the community?

We presume those homeowners who suffered damage as a result of the flooding will receive suitable compensation from whomever is responsible for the flooding.

We understand that the Mayor recently announced a R120 billion infrastructure portfolio. Could you advise if any of that is going to be invested in upgrading the ageing and limited storm water and wastewater infrastructure in the areas of Observatory, particularly in light of the City's approval of the River Club re-development?

I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely

Leslie Linton

OCA Chairperson
cc. Mayor Geordin Hill-Lewis, Councillor Mathew Kempthorne