

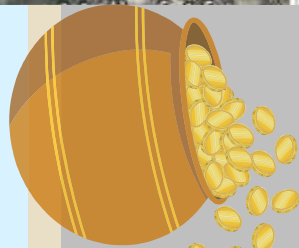
VORNA VALLEY COMMUNITY

NEWSLETTER



**COJ
Municipal
Invoices for
July 2025
Frustr-RATES
Residents
of the City**

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**The
Great
CEO
Salary
Splurge**

How the elite
claim their
salaries, while
the simple
citizen
endures...

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**GREIG
GARDENS
INITIATIVE**



- The Turn Out
- The Progress
- The Precedence

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*Women's Day
2025*

Your chance to shine
a spotlight on the
women in our
community making a
difference!

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GREIG GARDENS INITIATIVE update

Despite the cloud cover and chilly winds, the Greig Street Garden Initiative went ahead as planned last month on the **28th June 2025** - proving that even inclement weather can't dampen the spirit of civic pride.

While the turnout was smaller than anticipated, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the dedicated residents who braved the elements to make a visible difference in our neighbourhood.

The timing couldn't have been more symbolic – With Mandela Day, hot on the heels of the Greig Street Garden Initiative, the momentum was accelerated when more hands came out to help.

The area got a fresh clean and painting on the sidewalk for visibility to traffic. Keep an eye out for bollards coming to that space soon!!

This follow up clean-up was a reminder that small, collective actions ripple outward.

What started as a local effort to tidy our streets caught the attention of the broader community, including the generous team at Vorna Valley Superspar, who stepped up to provide refreshments for our volunteers.

Their support kept spirits high and energy flowing as we worked!

This initiative proved two things:

- 1) that every effort counts (no matter the scale), and
- 2) that when we take ownership of our surroundings, others take notice – and often join in.

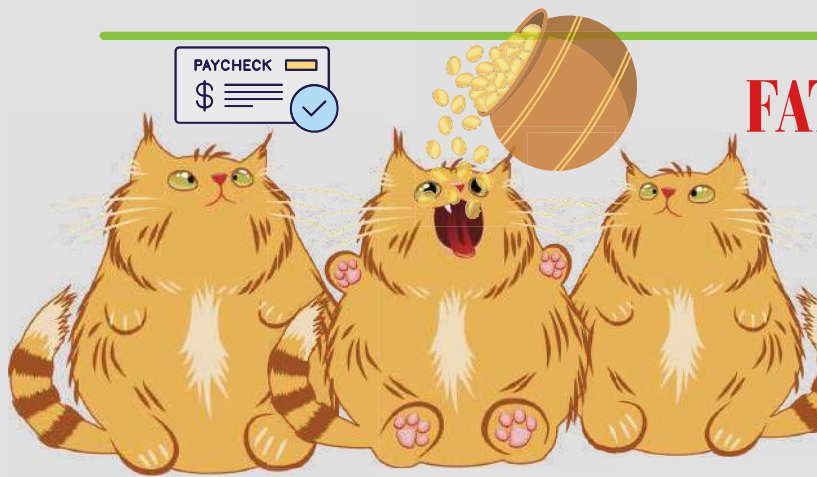
Let's keep this momentum going!

Reach out to us at

communication@vvra.org.za

and tell us about an initiative that your local area / street is planning, and together, we can keep inspiring the community around us.





FAT CAT-aclysmic Salaries

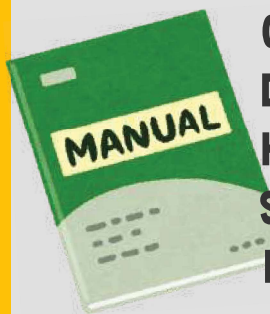
- what do we know about them?

Shirley De Villiers paints the picture quite eloquently in her latest article online at Currency News:

<https://currencynews.co.za/robbing-a-city-blind/>

Shirley's article sheds light on the ostensible salary hikes that have just been **approved** for the worst performing, (non) service-providers in our municipality - **Water, Electricity and Refuse!**

Handbook For Municipal Salary Increases:



- Collapse Service Delivery** ✓
- Decay Infrastructure** ✓
- Hike Service Costs** ✓
- Suffer the Citizens** ✓
- Bloat Salaries** ✓

Who Really Pays? You Do Of Course!

These salary hikes aren't funded on the hopes and dreams for a better functioning city — they in fact, come from:

- Your rising utility bills (Eskom's tariffs have jumped 450% since 2007).
- Your taxes (bailouts for failing SOEs exceed R300 billion since 2020).
- Your stolen future as infrastructure rots and service delivery evaporates.

Worse, these increases aren't tied to performance.

No bonuses for ending load-shedding.

No penalties for sewage spills.

Just guaranteed riches for the elite while the public pays – TWICE!

The Who, What, and Where of the Great CEO Pay Splurge?

Recent budget disclosures reveal shocking figures:

- Eskom's CEO now earns **R8.4 million** per year (up from R6.9 million in 2023), **despite rolling blackouts and a R254 billion debt burden.**
- Water and Sanitation executives have seen **double-digit percentage hikes**, with some now taking home R7 million+ annually while **raw sewage spills** into streets and **dams run dry.**
- Johannesburg Water's leadership enjoys luxury perks amid a **R10 billion infrastructure backlog** and **daily pipe bursts.**

Meanwhile, President Cyril Ramaphosa's official salary sits at **R4 million** — meaning these utility bosses now earn nearly **TWICE** what the country's leader does!

APPROVED TARIFFS FY2025/2026

PROPERTY RATES **4,6%**

ELECTRICITY **12,74%**

REFUSE **6,6%**

WATER **13,9%**

SANITATION **13,9%**

The Sky's the Limit - and apparently, so is your 1st property...

The City of Johannesburg has adjusted property rates by invoking the Municipal Property Rates Act 6 of 2004 (Section 15), which allows the City to reclassify any property beyond your first registered home as income-producing, even if it stands vacant, burns down, you get the idea...

Account Number: ~~3054970~~

City of Johannesburg Property Rates	Sub - Total	Total Amount
Category of Property: Property Rates Residential R 632,000.00 X R 0.0095447 / 12 (Billing Period 2025/07	502.69	
Less rates on first R300 000.00 of market value	- 57.85	
Less rates on first R300 000.00 of market value	- 180.77	
* Add Section 15 of MPRA adjustment	54.96	
* Add Section 15 of MPRA adjustment	171.73	
* Prop. Rates-Residential Dr	1,083.60	
VAT: 0 %	0.00	1,574.36

This then allows the City to remove the legislated residential discount, and all additional amounts initially determined from the property's value - thus charging you, the **full rateable** value.

Essentially, additional properties — regardless of actual use — are exempt from any rates rebates, increasing the Rates payable charges. To add insult to injury, since the amendment to the rates rebate structure, all rebates issued, were clawed back, resulting in many residents seeing abnormally high Rates charges on their COJ invoices this July 2025.

WOMEN'S MONTH 2025

Next month, we want to celebrate the women in our community, and we need your help!



Nominate a neighbour, a friend, a colleague, just about any woman who inspires you, and they could be featured in our next issue!

Send your nominations to communication@vvra.org.za

Subject: Women's Day 2025

Unscramble the 9 letter word below and send us your answers to: communication@vvra.org.za

H E W E T K I N G

Hint: Off to bed early here... think School or Work

Last Month's Solution: FABRICATE



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Email: fault@jwater.co.za
Twitter: @JHBWater

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0860 562 874 option 5
Email: hotline@jra.org.za
Twitter: @MyJra

CITY PARKS 🌳🌳

These include:
Tree pruning/cutting
Grass cutting
Municipal pools
The Joburg Zoo
Libraries
Recreation centres
Joburg open spaces
City owned Parks
Call: 0860 562 874 option 0
Email:
vmkhize@jhbcityparks.com
pkubheka@jhbcityparks.com
wafrika@jhbcityparks.com
Fallen trees : ☎️011 712-6600
Or trees@jhbcityparks.com

Pikitup 🗑️

These include :
Refuse removal (Household)
Clearing public bins
Illegal dumping
Call: ☎️0860 562 874 option 4
Illegal dumping WhatsApp to 082 779 1361
Emergency

SERVICES / JMPD 🚒🚑🚔🚚

These include :
Fires
Noise control
Ambulances services
By law infringements
Traffic enforcement and licensing
Call JMPD 011 758 9620 or 011 375 5918 and state
emergency
Call Fire:☎️ (011) 375-5911

BILLING QUERIES 🇿🇦

These include :
Billing related matters
Statement inquiries
Payment arrangements
Call: ☎️0860 562 874 option 1
Email: regionGvenue@joburg.org.za
Municipal statement www.joburg.org.za
Under e-services, other queries must
be logged at a walk-in centre

HEALTH-RELATED ISSUES 🏥🇿🇦

These include :
Health department
Environmental health
Call: ☎️011 375 5555 and ask for
Environmental Health
Contact the Regional Office on ☎️011 681-8082 or
visit them at their offices, 2nd Floor at Eureka
House, 92 Marlborough Road, Springfield

HIJACKED PROPERTIES 🏠🚚

These include :
Hijacked property
Abandoned properties
Contact the Group Forensics and Investigation
Services (GFIS) on ☎️ 080 000 2587

BUILDING CONTROL

These include :
Town planning
Building inspector
Plans
Urban management
Zoning
Email: ComplaintsPLE@joburg.org.za

COUNCILLOR ANNETTE DEPPE - 082 886 8519 or Annette@deppe.co.za