

**From:** Wendy Vorster - Robertson <[robertsw203@tiscali.co.za](mailto:robertsw203@tiscali.co.za)>

**Sent:** Saturday, 20 June 2020 19:23

**To:** WKRRRA Woodmead & Khyber Rock Residents

**Subject:** DEADLINE - Tuesday 23rd June: City of Johannesburg

Dear WoodRocker

Please urgently read the newsletter hereunder from JUST and make your voice heard by supporting the OUTA objection to the proposed Rates hike by the City of Joburg.

In addition, please read the attached newspaper article addressing the Nodal Review which was passed due to lack of adequate and effective public participation.

We are faced with a situation that is very close to my heart as having served nearly 4 Terms (of 4 years each) as a duly elected (honorary) Committee Member for Ward 106, I can advise that councillors currently earn a base salary of around R43,000 p.m. going up to +R80,000 p.m. depending on what additional COJ committees they serve on.

Is your councillor giving you value for money in that regard?

We are not talking Party Politics here – we are talking about councillors from all political parties.

There are a mere few that bridge the gap between communities and municipalities and endeavour to serve the residents who voted for them. Councillors in principle are supposed to be the voice of the people.

The Rates & Service Delivery hikes are in the region of 7% and the proposed salary increases amount to 6.4%.

Once again the City of Joburg is burdening the rate payers with unprecedented costs, much higher than the COL.

COVID-19 should have allowed for Councillors to take a wage freeze and also implement better management practices so that we could actually get Services and costs could be contained.

Please carefully read the OUTA material as it is both factual and alarming, and certainly does not fall into the emotional trap that I have presented above.

WKRRRA has subscribed to JUST from the outset, particularly in our fight against uncontrolled densification – one example is our own current plight is SIX SEWAGE SPILLAGES in the past week, which have taken COJ from 4 days upwards to repair. Undiluted raw sewage running down our streets creating a health hazard – and that during a COVID-019 Pandemic! Unbelievable.

All areas within the City are affected by the lack of services and lack of maintenance and only those few areas with active Resident Associations are able to experience some form of maintenance and service delivery.

Having said that, about 8 years ago Woodmead, Khyber Rock and Gallo Manor were in line for a complete refurbishment of our sewage system but that budgeted money never came our way.

Please MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD !!!

Lack of Public Participation is a real threat to our future – one needs only look at the Land Use Act and Nodal Review which, due to lack of public participation, was pushed into law and which now allows for densification without any consideration of service delivery or time-and-tested town-planning principles. (See attached news clipping).

Yours sincerely

Wendy Robertson.

Mobile: 083 700 2401

**From:** Just4Joburg <[JUST4Joburg@outlook.com](mailto:JUST4Joburg@outlook.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, 20 June 2020 09:20  
**To:** Just4Joburg <[JUST4Joburg@outlook.com](mailto:JUST4Joburg@outlook.com)>  
**Subject:** City of Johannesburg



*Dear Resident*

*JUST has faced many challenges over the past year, every time we prepare to re-launch, party political shenanigans rear its ugly head and then of course we have Covid-19. The Nodal Review, in the meantime was passed supported by all political parties with the brave exception of the FF councillor who refused to vote in favour of the City's irresponsible densification blue-print and abstained, much to the fury of the DA Caucus.*

*Our Attorney advises us that there is ample evidence of lack of real public participation and we are pursuing avenues to have the Nodal Policy challenged. We expect to have further news on this within the next weeks.*

*At this time of the year the City calls for comment on their integrated Development Planning budget (IDP). Rate Payer organisations report that their past efforts in the IDP public participation processes have been futile. We are delighted that OUTA has taken on the issue. Please go to the following OUTA reports and participate. OUTA have the structure to take on the City and need our support.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wo0w0AUvI3E>

[https://www.oua.co.za/draftcojbudget?fbclid=IwAR3W2kcyT6UoXeDORH4qqAl6SwoMU\\_BRIqKzM7gP0ovMBEyC1DVswFg\\_muw](https://www.oua.co.za/draftcojbudget?fbclid=IwAR3W2kcyT6UoXeDORH4qqAl6SwoMU_BRIqKzM7gP0ovMBEyC1DVswFg_muw)

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