

**Democratic Alliance City of Johannesburg Media Statement
Democratic Alliance City of Johannesburg Shadow Member of Mayoral Committee for
Community Development: Councillor Nonhlanhla Sifumba**

Media release: Tuesday, 20 October 2015

Johannesburg City Parks Zoo fails citizens of Joburg resulting in Rhodes Park murders

The Democratic Alliance in the City of Johannesburg is saddened by what transpired at Rhodes Park on Saturday.

“We condemn this gruesome inhumane act which has led to the loss of lives,” says SMMC for Community Development DA Cllr Nonhlanhla Sifumba.

She further says, “We would like to convey our sincere condolences to the families of both the deceased, and convey our thoughts and prayers to the woman who was brutally violated and raped, we hope that she is receiving specialized care.”

“Since the beginning of this new term we have advocated for security to be provided in public open spaces including parks,”

The DA believes that since Rhodes Park is a flagship park it is supposed to be under the guard of park rangers assisted by JMPD in enforcing the city’s by-laws.

“We have learnt that the incident occurred after hours. Although the park has rangers one has to highlight that 23 park rangers are not enough to take care of all the city's flagship parks.”

Numerous complaints and reports of crime in parks have been extended to ward councillors who are caught at their wits end as they cannot assist the residents. She says that failure by the city to fast track the issue of provision of security in public open spaces has given life to the criminal activity that occurred at Rhodes Park.

The DA strongly urges Johannesburg City Parks Zoo to fast track the provision of security in parks. Councillor Sifumba says that JCPZ needs to work hand in hand with JMPD and strengthen their relationship with SAPS, local private security companies as well as the community.

“Use EPWP programme to train people on by-law enforcement that should assist in ensuring that people in the city are safe when using public spaces, an involved community is a caring community,” she concludes.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

SMMC for Community Development
DA Councillor Nonhlanhla Sifumba
E-mail: sifumba.n@gmail.com
Mobile: [082 925 7496](tel:0829257496)

DA City of Johannesburg Media Liaison Officer

Tinyiko Barbara Masemola
Legislative Arm of Council
Institutional Support: Democratic Alliance Unit
Metro Building, B Block, Third Floor.
158 Civic Boulevard, Braamfontein, 2000
Tel No : 011 407-7118
Fax No : 011 403 2003
Mobile: 076 568 9941
Email : TinyikoMase@joburg.org.za