**Dial 107 from a land-line or 021 480 7700 from a mobile to report traffic-related emergencies**

In accordance with the City Council’s SRA by-law, a special rates area has been established in Kalk Bay and St James pursuant to a business plan and budget approved by property owners in our area, and also the City Council. This means that an additional rate is levied on property owners in our SRA to fund the approved budget.  Unlike the revenue collected from traditional rates and taxes, the SRA levy is ring-fenced specifically for improving public services exclusively within our SRA and only in accordance with the approved budget and business plan.  The SRA levy is collected by the City of Cape Town and disbursed to the non profit company which manages our SRA with a mandate to ‘top-up’ municipal services in accordance with the approved business plan and budget.

There is some confusion surrounding the differences between the SRA (Special Rating Area) and the RPA (Ratepayers Association). Below is a list of the various functions performed by both associations:

**RPA**

         Any queries pertaining to maintaining our area as a heritage area. This includes comment on development and building plans.

         General cleaning of the main arterial roads throughout the area

         Beach clean-up

         Harbour issues

         Railway issues

         Anything to do with your property rates

         Council related issues such as broken street lights and potholes

         Liaise with the businesses in the area

**SRA**

         The SRA’s mandate is limited to providing supplementary “top up” public services set out in the approved SRA business plan and budget. These are in respect of public safety, cleansing and upgrade of streets and public spaces not done on a regular basis by the City, and social services

         Additional public safety is by way of foot-patrollers backed by response vehicles (24/7) and security cameras

         Social Intervention. The SRA employs a Social Worker to assist with the social problems experienced in the area

         Forward all enquiries/complaints in respect of issues outside its formal mandate to the relevant people at the City and and/or the RPA and provide assistance within its capabilities to resolve these enquiries/complaints.

As a property owner you are not automatically a member of the SRA. Only registered members are able to vote at the AGM so if you are not a member, please go to the link below to access the membership application form (no cost involved):

<http://kalkbaystjamessra.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Application-for-membership-PDF.pdf>

Return the form to Gail at the SRA office once completed. If you have any queries or want to check if you are a member, please contact Gail.

**SRA Rates Increase**

The City Council recently advertised its approved Integrated Development Plan Budget for 2015/2016. This is available for inspection at <http://www.capetown.gov.za/en/Budget/Pages/Budget-2015-2016.aspx> . The approved budget means that our SRA rates for 2015/2016 will increase by about 6.4% for residential properties and by about 7.5% for commercial properties. The respective contribution rate in the Rand in our SRA remains one of the lowest of the 32 approved SRAs

**KBSTJ SRA Management Team**