POST TIMBER HARVESTING RE-INSTATEMENT OF CECILIA CAR PARK

SANParks is in the process of preparing a landscape plan for the re-instatement of the Cecilia plantation car park entrance with improved parking, signage, access and planting. This project is being undertaken as the plantation trees in and around the car park will be harvested in January / February next year as part of the tree felling program for Cecilia Plantation by the timber company, MTO Forestry.

The harvesting of the trees has been postponed for a number of years and the trees are becoming senescent and represent a danger to the public.

As a result of the tree felling there will be some damage to the existing car park and therefore the need for its re-instatement. During harvesting operations the car park will be closed for a period to ensure public safety. Post-harvesting, the car park will remain closed until the re-instatement of the car park has been completed.

SANParks has appointed a professional landscape architect to prepare the plan for the re-instatement of the car park.

The proposals include improved gravel surfacing, clearly demarcated parking bays, appropriate directional signage, upgraded footpaths and a full landscaped planting program with indigenous Afromontane forest trees and fynbos to provide both shade and to rehabilitate the indigenous vegetation.

The work will be funded by the SANParks Park Development Fund and Government’s Expanded Public Works Program and will commence shortly after the tree harvesting is completed.

Signage and notices will be placed in the area to ensure the public is made aware of the tree harvesting and implementation of the car park work. Alternative access points to Cecilia plantation from Constantia Nek, Kirstenbosch and from Rhodes Drive (opposite Southern Cross Drive) may be used.

The public are invited to comment on the draft landscape plans which will be available for viewing at an Open Day session on 4 November 2010 at SANParks Cape Research Centre, Tokai Rd. Tokai from 16h00 to 19h00. The draft landscape plans for Cecilia car park will also be available on the website www.tmnp.co.za from 4 November 2010 for comment.

TMNP
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