

Auasblick Erven Auction

I AM writing in the hope of bringing public attention to the upcoming council auctions of erven in Auasblick.

We believe a number of erven in the upcoming auction are being considered for expropriation. The council states they have no written notification from the government however many of the erven are standing closer and with a direct view on the state house than those who have been notified.

Residents affected by expropriation are presently paying large amounts of money for erven that are unusable. Should they sell, the expropriation affects the sale price, and should they continue to build against the government's advice they stand a chance of losing all or part of the investment in a forced sale, or the ensuing legal battle in attempt to recover costs.

According to law, published in your newspaper when the expropriation was brought to residents notification, compensation must include damages. Therefore if the law is upheld taxpayers will be paying for the escalating costs while the government makes up their mind on settlements, or perhaps the government is looking for a way to cheat the Auasblick residents out of what they fairly deserve. Furthermore should there, by some miracle, be a reversal of the decision, who is paying for the costs of the delay and losses on having funds and unusable property tied up, it is now well over a year since the decision to expropriate.

It is not enough that there is an irreversible option now for some residents of Auasblick. Now more properties and more private individuals with escalating costs are likely to be involved. I feel Windhoek residents deserve an explanation for how both the municipality and national government are wasting tax and rate-payers money.

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