

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

NO. 7122

13 February 2026

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT
ACT, 2008 (ACT NO. 24 OF 2008)APPLICATION FOR PRE-APPROVAL FOR THE RECLAMATION OF LAND FROM COASTAL WATERS
IN TERMS OF SECTION 7C(3), 7C(4)(a) AND 53 OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT: INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 2008 (ACT NO. 24 OF 2008) AND
REGULATIONS 2 AND 4 OF THE RECLAMATION OF LAND FROM COASTAL WATERS
REGULATIONS, 2018:
GRANGER BAY, V&A WATERFRONT, CAPE TOWN, WESTERN CAPE

I, Willem Abraham Stephanus Aucamp, the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, hereby invite the public to comment on the pre-approval application for the reclamation of land from coastal waters in terms of section 7C(3), 7C(4)(a) and 53 of the National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008 (Act No. 24 of 2008), (ICM Act).

V&A Waterfront Holdings (Pty) Ltd has submitted an application for pre-approval (in-principle approval) for the reclamation of land from the coastal waters of the Granger Bay area, V&A Waterfront, Cape Town (see locality map below). A copy of the pre-approval application can be accessed and downloaded from the following webpage: https://bit.ly/VWaterfrontgrangerbay_reclamation. A copy of the application can also be obtained electronically upon request by email to reclamation@dffe.gov.za. A hard copy can also be obtained from the Department's offices at the address indicated below by prior arrangement with the person indicated below for enquiries.

Reclamation of land from the sea involves the creation of new land in the sea. The ICM Act defines it as "the process of artificially creating new land within coastal waters, and includes the creation of an island or peninsula, but excludes beach replenishment by sand pumping for maintenance purposes". The ICM Act contemplates a two-part approval process for reclamation, with the first part being a Ministerial pre-approval. The ICM Act requires that, as the responsible Minister, I undertake a publication consultation process to obtain the public comments on the proposed reclamation. As part of that process, I am required to follow the public participation consultation and public participation process described in section 53 of the ICM Act. The second part of the process involves parliamentary ratification, where the ICM Act requires that if I pre-approve the proposed reclamation, that pre-approval must be ratified by Parliament.

The reclamation application and approval process in the ICM Act does not remove the need for an environmental authorisation in terms of Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (EIA Regulations), as amended under the National Environmental Management Act, 1988 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA). The pre-approval decision by the Minister will be submitted to Parliament for ratification in accordance with section 7C(4)(b) of the ICM Act. The Minister's pre-approval decision will become invalid

should Parliament fail to ratify it. The legal effect of Parliament failing to ratify pre-approval renders the reclamation process null and void. The same applies when the applicant's environmental authorisation is refused; the pre-approval and Parliamentary pre-approval ratification become invalid. Where Parliament ratifies the pre-approval process, the V&A Waterfront will be expected to submit the final reclamation application, environmental authorisation granted, ratified pre-approval decision for the Minister's final decision. The Minister's final reclamation decision will be further tabled in Parliament within 60 days of making the decision.

The V&A Waterfront proposes to reclaim 3.81 hectares (ha) of land which is divided as 0.80ha planned for coastal protection infrastructure, that is, breakwaters and revetment; 1.47 ha planned for the open spaces and public amenities, and 1.54 ha for the mixed-use development. The proposed reclamation area is located north of the Granger Bay Point Precinct of the V&A Waterfront between the western dolos revetment and the Oceana Power Boat Club Public Launch Site.

Granger Bay - Proposed Reclamation Area

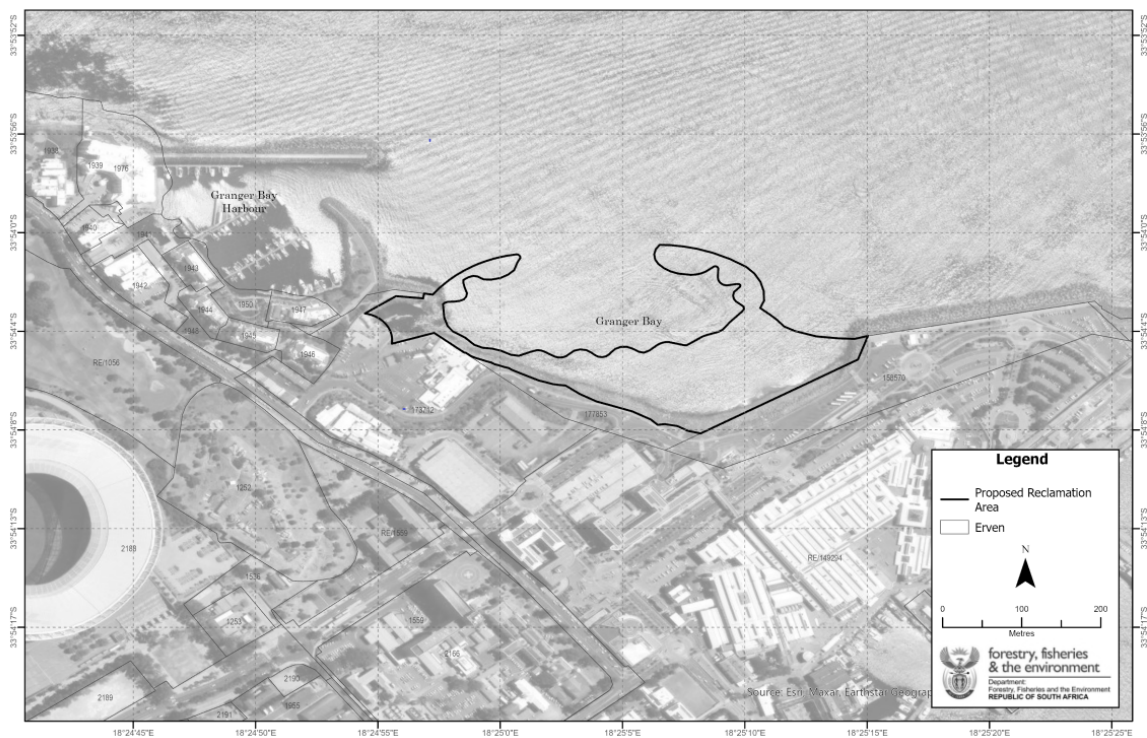


Figure 1: map depicting the V&A Waterfront in relation to the proposed area of reclamation

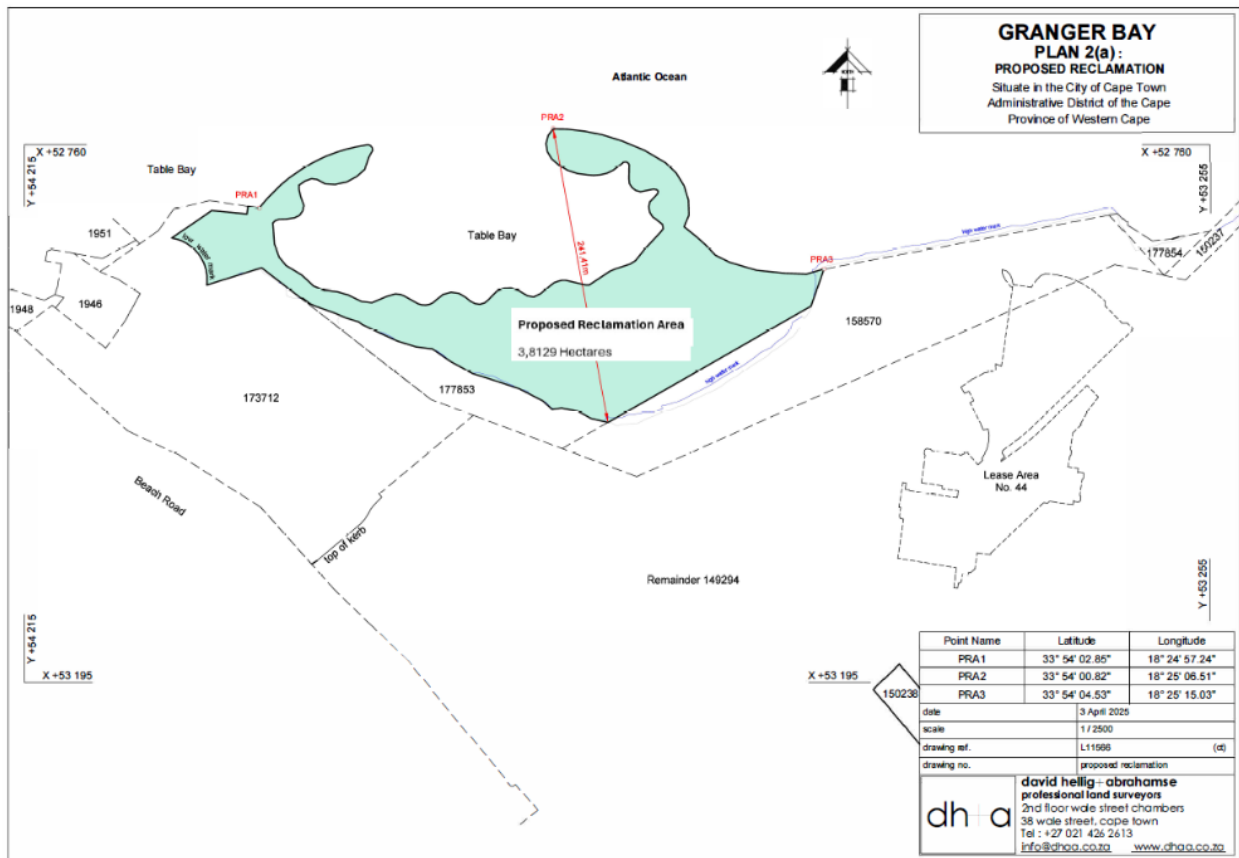


Figure 2: V&A Waterfront sketch diagram depicting the proposed reclamation area



Figure 3: Map of V&A Waterfront illustrating a proposed land reclamation area

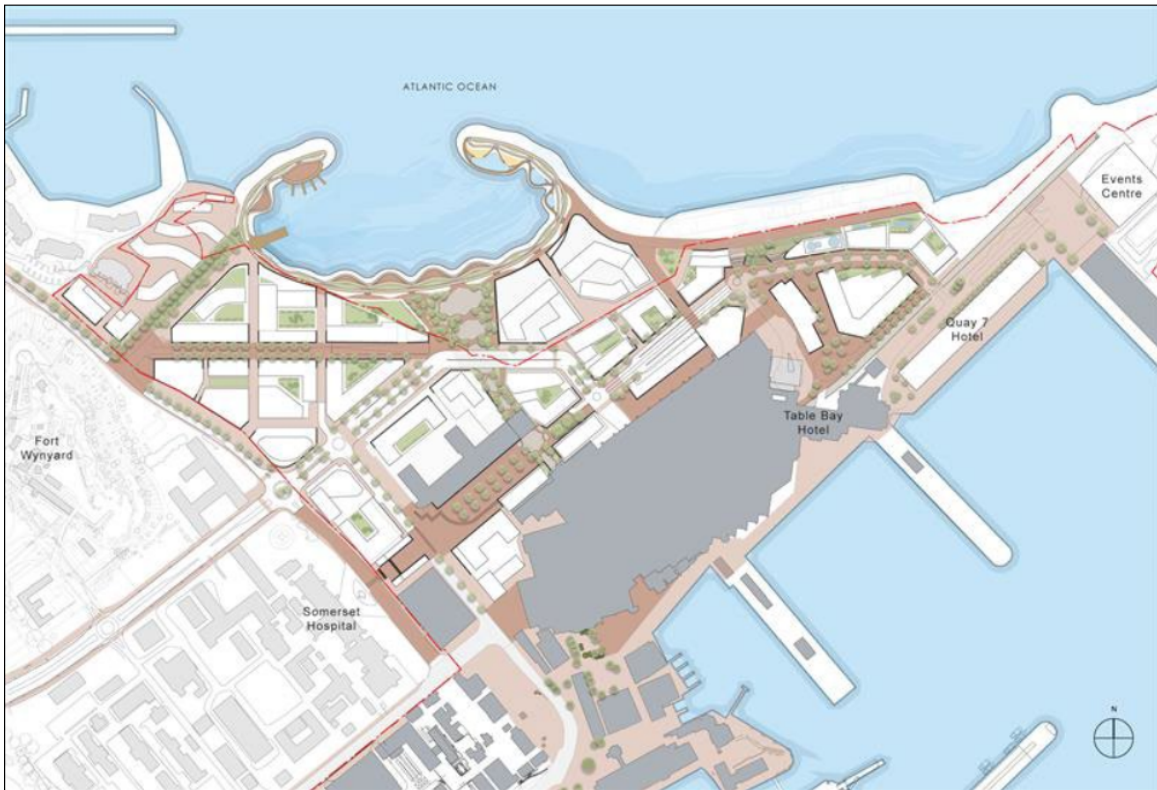


Figure 4: Granger Bay Masterplan depicting development parcels and public spaces with the proposed reclamation site

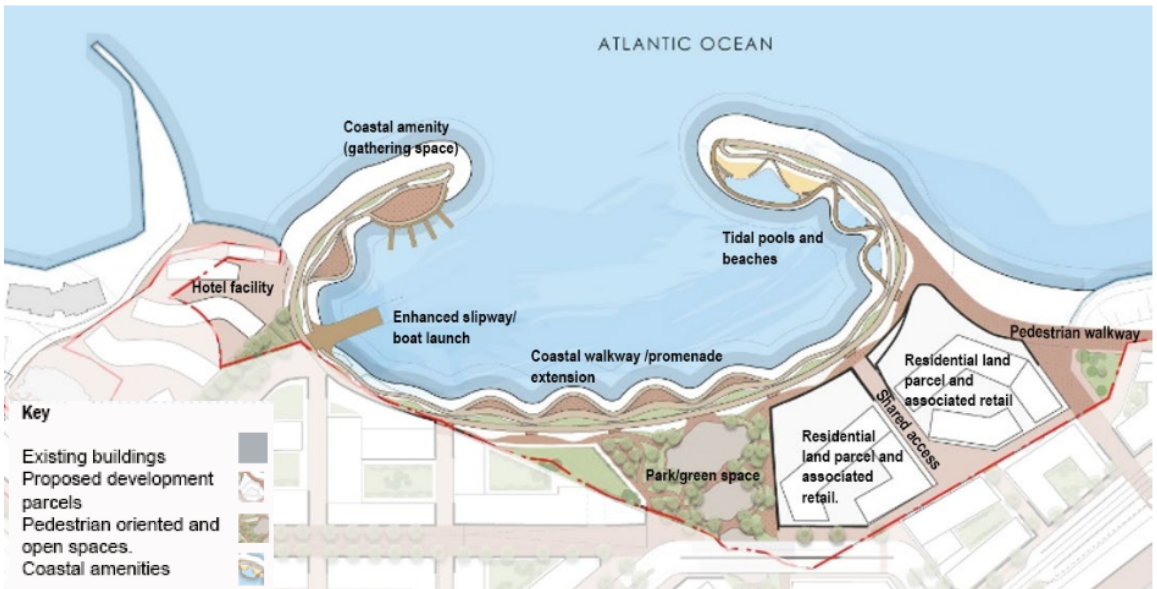


Figure 5: The schematic diagram of the proposed reclamation area in the context of the larger Granger Bay Precinct Plan

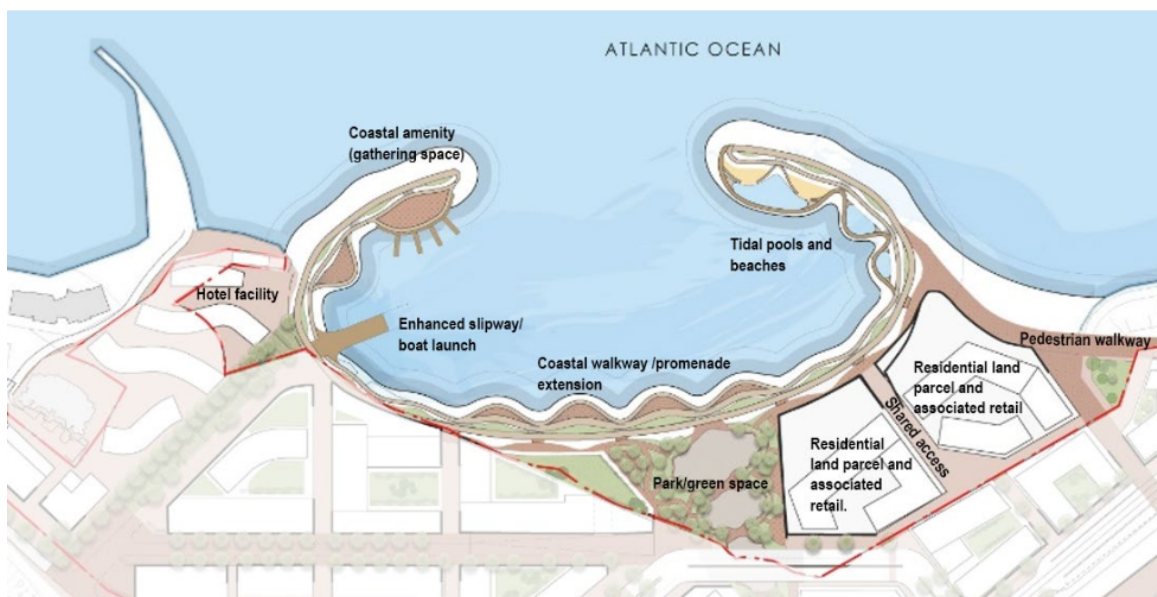


Figure 6: Proposed land uses on the reclaimed land

The reclamation project will comprise three elements as follows;

- Coastal protection infrastructure: the shoreline will be protected by means of new permanent rock revetment and two breakwaters, one to the east at a length of 140m and another to the west at a length of 90m. The revetment connecting the east and west breakwaters will be approximately 540m long. A new bay will be created providing sheltered waters for boating, kayaking and swimming. This will ensure the protection of land-based mixed development & public amenities.
- Mixed-use development on the newly reclaimed land: the proposal is a development of residential accommodation, hotel, leisure and associated issues.
- Adjacent mixed-use: Even though not part of the reclamation application, in context, erf 173712 will house residential accommodation, hotel, retail, and commercial development parcels.

The V&A Waterfront submit that the construction of the entire Granger Bay reclamation project is estimated to generate a total production output of approximately R24.2 billion and contribute R8.8 billion to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The entire reclamation construction phase is said to create 26,929 jobs, while the operation phase is said to create plus or minus 5105 jobs over 20 years.

The overall environmental impact of the proposed reclamation project, including but not limited to impacts on fisheries and oceanographic conditions, is said to be low. Specialist studies on fisheries, currents and tides, water quality and oxygen, longshore sediment transport, impacts on biodiversity, etc., can be found at the webpage cited above.

As opposed to the EIA Regulations process undertaken in terms of NEMA, the primary purpose of the reclamation authorisations process under the ICM Act is to assess and to provide in-principle approval for the reclamation. In this assessment, the application will be assessed to ensure that the sea, which is his coastal public property, is not utilised in a manner that undermines the objectives of the ICM Act, which is to ensure integrated and sustainable coastal development and to secure equitable access to the opportunities and benefits of coastal public property.

The public is invited to submit written representations on the pre-approval application within 30 days after publication of this notice in the *Gazette* or publication of a notification in the newspaper, whichever is the later date. Written representations received after 30 days may be disregarded.

All representations must be submitted in writing to the Deputy Director-General of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, Branch: Oceans and Coasts.

By hand: The Deputy Director General

Attention: Mr Ryan Peter

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Branch: Oceans and Coasts

East Pier Building No. 1, East Pier Road

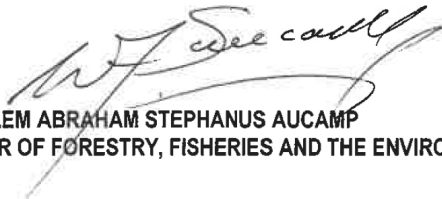
V&A Waterfront, Cape Town

8000

By email: reclamation@dffe.gov.za or rpeter@dffe.gov.za

Enquiries: Mr Ryan Peter on 079 501 8709

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment comply with the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013). Comments received and responses to those comments are collated into a comments and response report, which will be made available to the public as part of the consultation process. If you have any objection to your name being made publicly available in the comments and responses report, that objection should be highlighted in **bold** as part of the comments submitted.



MR WILLEM ABRAHAM STEPHANUS AUCAMP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT