

FOUNDATION.

This letter was published in the False Bay Echo.

From: Horst Kleinschmidt <kleinschmidt.horst@gmail.com> Subject: A letter to the Editor Date: 21 August 2011 7:43:11 AM SAST To: <chantel.erfort@inl.co.za>

Dear Chantel, Herewith a letter I hope you will consider publishing. I live at 10 Jacobs Ladder, St. James and would also like to bring it to your attention that the Echo is no longer being delivered to homes on the Ladder. Kind regards, Horst Kleinschmidt.

Highcliffe, 10 Jacobs Ladder, St. James, 7945, South Africa. Phone and Fax +27 21 788 2174, Cell – Mobile +27 82 573 7279 Email: kleinschmidt.horst@gmail.com Skype: H. Kleinschmidt

Dear Editor,

What if we imagine our neighbourhood ten years hence! It is 2021. The majority of those who live in Masiphumelele now live in modern double storey flats. All our children go to quality schools and are equally employable. Increasing numbers of Masi residents have bought or are renting homes in Capri, Kommetjie, Fish Hoek and elsewhere. The incidence of black-white marriages and birth of children of mixed race is increasing. Masi has become just another suburb, connected by access roads and walkways south, north, west and east to Longbeach Mall. Phokela Road has been widened with purpose-built shops and businesses on either side.

The fear of social and residential integration (by the white community) is slowly fading. Some (white) families have emigrated because they cannot make peace with these developments and cannot break with the way they were socialized in previous times.

A forum of local Southern Peninsula community leaders meets regularly to discuss how to further integrate a normal, typical community, one that was previously divided into white, black or coloured. Migration from the Eastern Cape, unemployment and the defence of the constitution are on their agenda. Archbishop Tutu smiles and says:

maybe the rainbow is a little nearer.

For that to happen we need leaders with a vision now, who take us beyond the defensiveness of the usual insular, comfort zones. In the absence of such leadership a South African spring will disturb the present order, probably sooner than later. I vote in favour of an action plan that treats current plans for a new access road, not as business as usual, but critically urgent. Further steps are equally urgent. Horst Kleinschmidt,

St. James, Cape Town.