

Buffalo City, South Africa

Rates

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Buffalo City South Africa

Rates By-law, 2009

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1. Preamble

- (1) Section 229 (1) of the [Constitution](#) authorizes a municipality to impose rates on property and surcharges on fees for services provided by or on behalf of the municipality.
- (2) In terms of section 3 of the Property Rates Act, a municipal council must adopt a policy consistent with the Property Rates Act on the levying of rates on rateable property in the municipality.
- (3) In terms of section 6(1) of the Property Rates Act, must adopt by-laws to give effect to the implementation of its rates policy.
- (4) In terms of section 6(2) of the Property Rates Act, by laws-adopted in terms of section 6(2) may differentiate between categories of properties; and different categories of owners of properties liable for the payment rates.

2. Interpretation

In this By-Law, the English text prevails in the event of any conflict with the Afrikaans or Xhosa texts. and, unless the context otherwise indicates-

"**Municipality**" means Buffalo City Municipality;

"**Rates policy**" means a rates policy adopted by Buffalo City Municipality in terms of this By-Law;

"**Constitution**" means the [Constitution](#) of the Republic of South Africa;

"**Credit Control and Debt Collection By-Law and Policy**" means 's Credit Control and Debt Collection By-Law and Policy as required by sections 96(b), 97 and 98 of the Systems Act.

"**Property Rates Act**" means the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 6 of 2004,

"**Rate**" or "rates" means a municipal rate on property as envisaged in section 223 of the [Constitution](#).

3. Adoption and implementation of rates policy

- (1) Buffalo City Municipality shall adopt and implement a rates policy consistent with the Property Rates Act on the levying of rates on rateable property in the municipality.
- (2) Buffalo City Municipality shall not be entitled to levy rates other than in terms of a valid rates policy.

4. Contents of rates policy

Buffalo City Municipality's rates policy shall, inter alia:

- (1) Apply to all rates levied by Buffalo City Municipality pursuant to the adoption of the Municipality's annual budget;
- (2) Comply with the requirements :-
 - (a) the adoption and contents of a rates policy specified in section 3 of the Property Rates Act;

- (b) the process of community participation specified in section 4 of the Property Rates Act.
- (c) the annual review of a rates policy specified in section 5 of the Property Rates Act.
- (3) specify any further principles, criteria and implementation measures consistent with the Property Rates Act for the levying of rates which Buffalo City Municipality may wish to adopt;
- (4) include such further enforcement mechanisms, if any, as Buffalo City Municipality may wish to impose in addition to those contained in the Credit Control and Debt Collection By-Law and Policy.

5. Enforcement of rates policy

Buffalo City Municipality's rates policy shall be enforced through the Credit Control and Debt Collections By-Law and Policy and any further enforcement mechanisms stipulated in Buffalo City Municipality's rates policy.

6. Operative date

This By-Law shall take effect on 1 July 2009.