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Reginald Bouy Cloete, Ward 13 councillor, and Colonel Muzi Twala, Mariannhill SAPS station commander, are happy about the decision to build a new police station in the Mariannhill area.

New Mariannhill police station brings hope

Sanelisiwe Tsinde

THE fight against crime in Mariannhill and surrounding areas has received a boost following the allocation of land by the eThekweni Municipality to the Department of Public Works for the building of a police station in the area.

This was after a Council meeting was held on February 28 where Council made the decision to give land to the Public Works Department.

Ward councillor Reginald Bouy Cloete said this happened after they held a meeting with Minister of Police Bheki Cele and the then-

Minister of Public Works, Patricia De Lille, on October 8 last year.

Cloete said in the meeting that Cele indicated that his department would provide the money to build the Mariannhill police station.

The current police station serves a wide area, covering six wards, and is operating out of park homes, which makes the working conditions of the police difficult and causes congestion for members of the public who use the station.

The Mariannhill area has been under the spotlight due to its spate of crime, especially the rampant murders and drug-abuse issues.

The recent incident, which made headlines, was of five people who

were killed by three gunmen, while two others were injured in separate crime scenes in the area on the same day.

eThekweni mayor Councillor Mxolisi Kaunda said the decision to allocate land for a new police station is a clear demonstration of the City's commitment to fighting crime.

"Having this police station is going to enhance the good work of our law enforcement agencies in fighting crime. It will also give communities the confidence of knowing that fighting crime tops the list of the government's service-delivery agenda," said Kaunda.