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|  Updates: Waste Facility, Road 21 and Al-Wallajeh |
| A plan for a **534 dunam construction waste facility** (TPS 13900) in East Jerusalem was submitted for public objections by the District Planning and Building Committee on November 2.  The proposed facility would be located north of Isawiyya and south of the separation barrier—beside the road to Ma’ale Adumim—converting an area directly adjacent to Palestinian neighborhoods into a dumpsite for construction waste. At least part of the land designated for the plan is privately owned by residents of Isawiyya and A'nata.  In concert with Bimkom—Planners for Planning Rights, residents of Isawiyya have prepared and submitted a master plan to the Municipality that includes a new school and kindergarten complex.  In addition to blocking community development to benefit neighborhood children, the plan would require the demolition of 30 Beduin structures located in East Jerusalem and the displacement of several dozen families located on the southwest side of the separation barrier, across the wall from A’nata. Isawiyya already faces the prospect of the Mount Scopus Slopes National Park, which would be located on a swath of land located between Isawiyya and A-Tur and require the expropriation of the only remaining land available for the future growth of these communities. This plan wassubmitted for public review by the Jerusalem District Building and Planning Council (Town Planning Scheme – TPS 11092A).  The period for objections has been frozen pending resolution of a court request from the community to translate plan documents into Arabic. Both the proposed national park and waste dump would be located on land connected to the E-1 parcel.  The waste dump—which will be converted to a park after reaching capacity— would be located adjacent to the Mount Scopus Slopes Park and [northwest of Isawiyya](http://www.altro.co.il/uploads/org_252/File/New%20National%20Park.jpg) .  The two parcels will be divided by Road 1, the main artery linking Jerusalem and Ma’aleh Adumim.  If developed, the Mount Scopus Slopes National Park and waste dump facility would not only block future Palestinian development but create a land bridge from Mount Scopus to the E-1 parcel, se parating East Jerusalem from the West Bank while splitting the West Bank into northern and southern cantons.Yesterday’s housing demolition in Khillet-al-Ain, located in A-Tur, close to the proposed national park, is a strong indication of authorities’ intention to push these plans forward.  For additional Ir Amim analysis on the political implications of the waste facility, please link [here](http://www.haaretz.com/news/national/jerusalem-plans-to-evict-120-bedouin-to-make-room-for-waste-landfill.premium-1.477281).--------------------------October 29 marked the close of the bidding period for a tender to construct a portion of **Road 21**, a north-south roadway designed to connect Ramat Shlomo in East Jerusalem to the center of Jerusalem.  Once completed, Road 21 would travel from Road 9 (Ramot), past Ramat Shlomo & French Hill to the Atarot Industrial area and from there connect to Road 20.  The portion of the road relevant to the bidding process closed on October 29 would link Ramat Shlomo to Road 9, facilitating access to Jerusalem.  Results of the bidding process have not yet been announced. The construction of Road 21 is closely linked to the objective of advancing further housing plans on the northern periphery of East Jerusalem.  Road 21would add another entrance to Ramat Shlomo—adjacent to Ramot—to increase access to the area and ease the advancement of new building plans.  A plan for 1,600 housing units in Ramat Shlomo (TPS 11085) was deposited for objections by the District Planning and Building Committee on October 26, 2011, with no subsequent review of objections.  Another plan for 650 units (TPS 11094) has not yet been deposited. ---------------------------On October 24, just before the Muslim holiday ofEid-Al-Adha and at the height of the olive harvest, the Israeli authorities began laying several kilometers of concertina wire fence around the circumference of **Al-Wallajeh** to mark the impending path of the separation barrier.  Please refer to the [attached map](http://www.altro.co.il/uploads/org_252/File/Wall%20in%20Wallajeh.pdf) of the barrier in Al-Wallajeh, which appears to show a large opening along the bypass road where the barrier is expe cted to be constructed.  The temporary fence impedes farmers’ access to their land and, once finished, will completely disconnect them from their groves.  It is anticipated that the separation barrier will be completed by May, 2013.  Further, a 1,000+ dunam national park—to be built partly on Al-Wallajeh land—is in the advanced stages of the planning process. Contrary to what has transpired in other neighborhoods located between the separation barrier and the municipal boundary, it appears that the Municipality intends to demolish homes standing in its path.  In mid-October, inspectors entered the village to photograph homes for which demolition orders have been issued in the past, as well as homes not yet marked for demolition.  This inspection occurred just several weeks after the Jerusalem Magistrate Court rejected residents’ appeal to cancel demolition orders on 7 houses in the village.  Following the inspection, the residents’ attorney was able to secure a delay and submit another appeal.  To date, no new demolition orders have been issued. Al-Wallajeh is the westernmost neighborhood on the southern periphery of Jerusalem.  Its complete isolation by the separation barrier—along with expansion of Gilo, plans to develop Givat Hamatos and the continued growth of Har Homa—signify the Israeli authorities’ goal to consolidate the southern border of Jerusalem.  If fulfilled, that action will fully break the land continuity between East Jerusalem and the rest of the West Bank on which a future two state solution depends.Please address all inquiries to:**Betty Herschman**Director of International Relations & AdvocacyIr Amim (“City of Nations”)27 King George St. POB 2239Jerusalem, Israel 94581Work: 972-2-6222-858 *x106*Cell: 054-308-5096betty@ir-amim.org.ilwww.ir-amim.org.il    |