

SPEECH BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR
WATERGATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
SOD TURNING EVENT

DATE: 25 JULY 2009

Good morning

Premier

Mr Program Director

Fellow MAYCO Members

Representative of the Nelson Mandela Foundation

Director Urban Renewal Programme

Director Sport and Recreation

Centre Users

Communities of Mitchell's Plain and Khayelitsha

Officials of Government

It is a truly remarkable occasion to mark the beginning of such an ambitious and transformative initiative. The City of Cape Town is proud to be in association with the Watergate Housing Development and New Age Property Developers.

The vision of this project is to construct 3000 mix used, high density housing units with proper community facilities and quality open spaces which are environmentally sustainable. As human settlements development is an anchor project of the URP department this project seeks to address the serious backlog that exists within the gap housing market.

The URP department had formalised a Public Private Partnership with New Age Property Developers to ensure that we deliver quality and sustainable housing development to the community of Mitchell's Plain and the surrounding areas who will become the residents and home owners of the new suburb.

The construction of quality gap housing units is starting today and will continue for the next 3 years on these specific sites that were once synonymous with crime and safety issues for the surrounding communities of Mandalay, Phillipi and Lentegour.

The 22 hectares of land is about to be transformed into a vibrant, relatively high density, mixed use, urban precinct accommodating ± 3000 affordable units for the lower income gap housing market. The precinct will be pedestrian and non-motorised transport dominant, characterized by a dignified, high quality public spatial environment.

The development will consist of the following:

- ✚ 2200 high density gap housing units
- ✚ 800 conventional separate title units
- ✚ Mini shopping centre
- ✚ Quality Public open spaces
- ✚ Recreational facilities

The prestigious development is poised to become the most sought-after property address in the Mitchell's Plain nodal area.

It is through initiatives such as these that we can truly transform our communities and restore dignity and sustainable living to the most needy.

The Watergate Housing Development aims to grow the local economy with an amount R800 000 million over the next 3 years in construction phase. The Development bring with it local employment, enterprise, skills development and training opportunities for the communities of Mitchell's Plain, Phillipi and Khayelitsha.

We hope that the private sector will continue to partner with the City through the Urban Renewal Project to create sustainable development initiatives in our communities.

I thank you.