

LONG-AWAITED MULTI-MILLION RANDS SENWABARWANA SHOPPING MALL CONSTRUCTION GETS UNDERWAY

The sod-turning ceremony conducted by Blouberg Local Municipality Mayor, Her Worship Cllr Maria, investors Rheinland Investments together with its partner, Masingita Group joined by Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure MEC Nkakareng Rakgoale, Capricorn District Municipality Executive Mayor Cllr Mamedupi Teffo on November 11, 2022 marked the beginning of the construction of the state-of-the-art Senwabarwana Shopping Mall.

Investors, Rheinland Investments and partner, Masingita Group officially commenced the construction of the mall on November 15, 2022 on Erf 300(formerly Senwabarwana Showground).

Together, the project partners invested R350million into the development.

The groundbreaking event was celebrated under the theme: "Unlocking Economic Potential For Socio-Economic Emancipation-BLOUBERG ON THE MOVE | 2022".

The investors are proud to bring this convenience to the town of Senwabarwana with their latest shopping centre development.

Construction of the multi-million rands enclosed shopping mall commenced on November 15, 2022. The 24 000m² (square meters) project will be implemented in three phases. The first and second stages of construction will be at 18000m² extent with an eighteen(18) months schedule that will see the mall open its doors in April 2024.

The first phase will comprise a filling station and a food drive-through store, while the second phase of the project will be the construction of shops with two anchor tenants, the clothing stores, lifestyle stores, food court, pharmacies(medical facilities), taxi and bus drop off and pick up zone among others.

The third phase of construction will be a 6000m² of build with an ideal of a double story building. The last phase will have additional stores to accommodate clothing and food stores and an additional anchor tenant among others.

There are franchise opportunities for restaurant and fast food operators and the construction of hawkers stalls for those operating small businesses aligning to the mall construction theme.

The development is the vision of the late businessman, Mr Theo Mphosi, son of Mr John Mphosi, the Chairman of Rheinland Investments, a holding company for MTR Construction, Global Oil, Platinum Bulk and a number of Galitos stores among other businesses.

Rheinland Investments Chairman, Mr John Mphosi extended his gratitude to the municipality for having faith in them and walking the difficult journey with them to ensure that the application for the construction of the mall is approved. He indicated that, the retail development will be tailored to the needs of the greater community of Blouberg.

" Thanks to the Mayor, Municipal Manager and the team for working tirelessly to ensure that the project is approved. We have a good relationship with our development partner, Masingita Group, Mr Mike Nkuna, we are a family. We are currently finalizing some of the contracts with the tenants. It is fulfilling to be implementing this project here, at home".

1200 jobs will be created during construction stage and 400 during operations.

Municipal Manager, Mr Refilwe Ramothwala indicated that the municipality is looking into ways to improve the (town)planning of Senwabarwana to align with the new development as many people will be flocking to town after the completion of the project.

Mayor Thamaga once more, thanked Rheinland Investments and the partner Masingita Group for partnering with the municipality to develop Blouberg and improve the economic status of the municipality and its people.

"When i got in office, public-private-partnership was one of the priorities and still is - to help us create employment opportunities for our people and improve our economic status. I want to see people of Blouberg have better lives. Through public- private-partnerships, we are able to do more for our communities, as the municipality cannot create jobs for everyone, however, together with the private sector, we can do more. We are happy for the beautiful mall that is about to be constructed. The construction of the mall will cut shopping trips shorter to nearest towns like Louis Trichardt and Polokwane. We are going to be like other towns with big shopping malls and better shopping experience".

Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure MEC Mme Nkakareng Rakgoale commended Rheinland Investments and its partner for bringing a bigger shopping centre in Blouberg, saying the investment is the practicality of the public-private-partnership as alluded by the president.

MEC Rakgoale also conveyed a message of appreciation from Local Economic Development, Environment and Tourism MEC Mr Rodgers Monama to Rheinland Investments, Mr Mphosi and its partner Masingita Group for their big role in local economic development, indicating that while many people lost jobs and companies closing doors during COVID-19 pandemic, Rheinland Investments is putting in investment that will create more jobs.

The memorable groundbreaking ceremony was graced by the presence of BLM Council Speaker, Cllr Blanco Boloka, Chief Whip of Council, Cllr Johanna Rangata, Members of the Executive Committee, Councillors, Kgoshi Abram Seakamela, Kgoshi Ngoako Maleboho, Kgoshi Kgabo Moloto III, Kgoshi Mamadi TA, Kgoshi Makgato KB and the representatives of Kibi Traditional Authority.