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City of Johannesburg
Pikitup

Pikitup Head Office
Jorissen Place
66 Jorissen Street
Braamfontein
2001

Private Bag X74
Braamfontein
Johannesburg
2017

Tel+27(0) 11 712 5200
Fax +27(0) 11 712 5322
www.pikitup.co.za
www.joburg.org.za

MEDIA RELEASE

TO : ALL MEDIA

FROM : MMC ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

CLLR : NICO DE JAGER

DATE : 14 JUNE 2017

SUBJECT : CITY CONTINUES WITH COMMUNITY UPLIFTMENT PROGRAMME IN ZANDSPRUIT

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Today I hosted a waste awareness campaign and public meeting in Zandspruit, as part of Pikitup's Community Upliftment Programme (CUP).

I was joined by Pikitup's Managing Director, Mr Lungile Dhlamini

During the waste awareness campaign and public meeting, we encouraged residents to take ownership of their environment and actively participate in keeping their community clean through recycling and cleanliness.

Zandspruit Informal Settlements has approximately 24 900 housing units, and the community is faced by a number of socio-economic challenges, one of which is extensive illegal dumping.

The persistent illegal dumping in the area has led to environmental degradation and a serious rodent infestation.

The Community Upliftment Programme (CUP) is an initiative which started in 2016 through a partnership between Tedcor and the Pikitup Randburg Depot and aims to employ residents from Zandspruit to assist Pikitup with keeping the community clean.

Today, through the work of Pikitup Randburg Depot and Tedcor, it is good to see that various illegal dumping sites have been rehabilitated.

Recycling bins marked with Pikitup S@S (Separation at Source) stickers, has been introduced in the community, and waste are sorted by the local cooperatives on a daily basis.

Through this initiative, we want to showcase that residents can turn their environment into an area where they can proudly live, work and play.

The campaign aims to achieve the following:

- Encourage the community, in partnership with Pikitup, to take ownership of the environment they live in and ensure that it's kept clean;
- The formation of a local environmental forum group which will advocate for an active participation in sustaining environmental cleanliness in Zandspruit;
- Assisting JMPD by reporting dumping trucks for by-law infringement. These can be reported on the JMPD Hotline (080 872 3342);
- Encouraging residents to actively participate in recycling, and by doing so reducing the tonnages of waste that goes to landfill sites;
- Informal traders will be encouraged to make use of bins and refuse bags for disposal of food debris and participate in recycling;
- Residents are to effectively use the refuse bags which they are been given on a weekly basis for the purpose of refuse disposal.

Working together with communities through partnerships such as this, I am confident we can make Johannesburg a cleaner and better City.

Media enquiries:

Cllr Nico de Jager

MMC for Environmental and Infrastructure Service Delivery

083 899 2127

NicoDe@joburg.org.za

