



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 STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA
FROM : PIKITUP
DEPARTMENT : CSM DEPARTMENT
DATE : 22 NOVEMBER 2018
SUBJECT : ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES MMC OFFICIALLY OPENS TWO RECYCLING FRIENDLY GARDEN SITES

Dear Editor/Journalist

The MMC for Environment and Infrastructure Services Cllr Nico De Jager officially opened two newly refurbished Pikitup Drop off Centres today. The renovations at both the **Victory Park Drop off Centre** and the **Ashburton Drop off Centre** are valued at almost R4 million.

Speaking during the official opening Cllr Nico De Jager said the City of Johannesburg generates huge volumes of waste on a daily basis. The efforts of Pikitup employees to guarantee a spotlessly clean City are commendable. But we have since discovered that our efforts are fruitless without the unwavering support of local communities.

“It is against this backdrop that Pikitup is impressing upon communities to roll up their sleeves and together with Pikitup rid the City of illegal dumping, litter and reduce the amount of waste that ends up in landfill sites,” he said.

The Victory Park Drop off Centre is situated in Victory Park while the Ashburton Drop off Centre is situated in Riverlea.

De Jager said this afternoon that Pikitup and the City of Johannesburg are demonstrating their commitment to reducing waste that ends up at landfill sites by officially opening these drop off centres.

He said apart from the cost implications of the renovations and refurbishments, a key component of the upgrades is that both drop off sites are comprised of features that will make it easier for residents to recycle their waste. The features include:

- Ramp access: which will make it easier to drop of waste into the allocated skip or drop site without the energy and labour intensity that is involved in lifting heavy waste into the allocated drop site;
- Recycling storage facilities: this feature will make recycling in this site simple and will also allow for waste recyclers to store recyclable materials before selling them off. This will assist in reducing the proliferation of illegal recycling sorting facilities across the City. Illegal recycling sorting facilities are mushrooming in the city and with their mushroom, a whole lot of unintended harmful health and economic consequences;
- The facility also contains a kitchenette and a new guard house. These features will go a long way to increase the productivity of our employees.

De Jager said the upgrades provide residents in the area with features that makes it easier to recycle.

“We therefore urge community members to assist us to spread the gospel of intensified recycling practices because our facilities are now recycling friendly. Increasing the quantities of recycled materials will go a long way in insulating residents against the cost implications that we might suffer in the event that the remaining landfill sites are depleted,” he said.

De Jager said the City’s Waste Management Plan, enjoins Pikitup to divert 97% of the waste away from landfill sites.

“I am confident that this figure will decrease significantly if we all play a role in diverting waste away from landfill sites, together we can ensure that only 3% of waste is disposed of in landfill sites,” he said.

In conclusion, De Jager encouraged residents serviced by both areas to use these facilities optimally for recycling purposes thereby assisting in preserving the environment for future generations.

For more information please contact

Muzi Mkhwanazi

087 357 1116 or 071 312 7757

