



a world class African city



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MEDIA RELEASE

JRA LAUNCHES WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION COOPERATIVES

Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA), an entity of the Johannesburg City, will be launching its first Women In Construction Cooperatives. The launch will be held at the Protea Parktonian Hotel in Braamfontein at 10h00 on July 30, 2012. At this launch, 40 fully registered Cooperatives and 24 that are still in the process of registering will be unveiled in order to liberate women economically.

This is in line with the Joburg 2040 Growth and Development Strategy (GDS) vision which commits to a World Class African of the City as a vibrant, equitable Africa City, strengthened through its diversity; a city that provides real quality of life; a city that provides sustainability for all citizens and a resilient and adoptive society. Also, the national and international experience attest to the fact that the cooperative model of enterprise is far the best positioned to effectively address socio-economic issues.

Over 100 women involved in construction, a previously male dominated industry, attended the seminar hosted by the JRA Managing Director, Ms Duduzile Maseko on 4 April 2012, at the Civic Theatre (Braamfontein) and these women were introduced and encouraged to form co-operatives. The Women in Construction Cooperatives will create more awareness amongst employers while at the same time provide more work opportunities for women to be involved in construction. These cooperatives will be run by women themselves who have successfully managed their own companies within the sector. At this seminar, presentations were made by different stakeholders including Imbewu, ABSA, etc. from a funding perspective.

A follow-up workshop was held on 26 July 2012 where this initiative was enforced and 50 cooperatives were formed consisting of 5-6 people per group. These women expressed their

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Chairman: K Shubane, Managing Director: DG Maseko Non-Executive Directors:
Adv. HWL Kugel, Dr WR Nyabeze, F Crowley, X Hloma, M Maimane, F Matabane,
L Brenner, M Simelane, K Mthimunye Company Secretary: Adv. TP Bokako

Registration No. 2000/028993/07

excitement and enthusiasm to be part of the history in the making. The cooperatives are aimed at bringing women to work as a collective in production and distribution thus reducing poverty and creating jobs.

ENDS

Issued on behalf of the Johannesburg Roads Agency

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