



Thaba Ya Batswana

- Eco Hotel & Spa -



PRESS RELEASE

31 OCTOBER 2012

South of JHB launches Kliprivier Urban Biodiversity Corridor

KUBiC aspires to convert the South of Johannesburg into a visual experience creating one of the first major green urban corridors in Gauteng.

Residents can now look forward to a 12 kilometer biodiversity corridor along the length of Kliprivier Drive from Booyens Road to Swartkoppies Road creating a passage of carefully planted trees, shrubs and other plants leading into and through the South of Johannesburg known as the *Kliprivier Urban Biodiversity Corridor (KUBiC)*, a Thaba Ya Batswana – Eco Hotel & Spa initiative.

The primary purpose of KUBiC is to enhance the visual travelling experience of the South of Johannesburg as one enters from the M1 and M2 merging with renowned conservation areas in and around the Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve. The corridor will play a vital role in endeavors to promote tourism in the South and enhance the aesthetic value, which is most needed in the area between Booyens and Rifle Range and as such marks the launch of this project. Furthermore, trees and shrubs propagated from local seed will be used for the areas to the south of the N12 to blend with existing vegetation.

A complete ecological survey has been undertaken to identify the exact nature of the various biodiversity environments, from the urbanised areas in Booyens to the open and more natural areas around Mulbarton and everything in between. The study included all natural and manmade aspects with the aim of developing self-sustaining yet attractive habitats. These habitats will enhance the biodiversity of the existing environment and improve the natural linkages between fragmented open spaces.

The official launch took place on Wednesday 31 October 2012 and involved the introduction of the KUBiC concept and planting the first trees in the area at the on and off ramps to the north of Rifle Range Road.

Stakeholders and proud sponsors of this project include Thaba Ya Batswana – Eco Hotel & Spa; SOJO Business & Tourism; KlipSA (Klipriviersberg Sustainability Association); City of Joburg; Johannesburg City Parks; Botanist Morne Brits of Kironia Environmental, Howden Africa; Water Wise and Horticulturist Gina Shoemaker of Green Earth Landscaping. Corporate companies and individuals are encouraged to support this initiative by getting involved via SOJO Business & Tourism.

For more information contact SOJO Business & Tourism on 011 493 7880 or info@sojo.co.za

