

Cornubia on track

SILINDILE MALULEKA

THE multibillion-rand Cornubia Integrated Human Settlement Project is progressing well as Phase 1B of the housing development begins to take shape.

This major development, north of eThekweni, is a joint-venture partnership between the National Department of Human Settlements, KwaZulu-Natal Department of Human Settlements, eThekweni Municipality and Tongaat Hulett Developments.

Phase 1B will accommodate 2 186 families, an increase from 482 units that were constructed in Phase 1A as a pilot project.

The two phases aim to accommodate eThekweni residents with a low household income, especially those living in informal settlements.

Giving an update on the progress of the development, Beryl Mphakathi, Head of the eThekweni Human Settlements Unit, said three contractors responsible for civil infrastructure were on site.

"The Municipality is facilitating, through the Department of Education,

the provision of a temporary primary school which is expected to open in the second school term of this year," Mphakathi said.

She said the Department of Education had confirmed that the construction of a permanent primary school would commence soon.

Planning for social amenities are advanced and will commence once internal infrastructure in Phase 1B is complete. Bulk infrastructure requirements for the development include major intersection upgrades and a water reservoir.



GROUND BREAKING: The Cornubia project will integrate various socio-economic communities in a manner that adds value and enhances sustainability with residential and economic opportunities.

Picture: GUGU MQADI

Mphakathi said construction of five factories at the Cornubia Industrial Business Estate was completed and they were expected to create job opportunities for residents.

Construction of additional factories and warehousing is in progress.

Bulk earthworks have begun on the site of the Cornubia Business and Retail Hub. Civil infrastructure is expected to commence soon and the opening of the facility is scheduled for September 2017.

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Mobile libraries donated

SIMPHIWE DLAMINI

THE Municipality, in partnership with the New Africa Education Foundation, observed the National Library week by donating the innovative Asifunde mobile libraries to 20 disadvantaged primary schools in Phoenix, Inanda, Ntuzuma and KwaMashu.

The library week began on Sunday, 14 March, and will end on Saturday, 21 March under the theme, "Connect @ your Library".

These mobile libraries, valued at R560 000 can be moved from one classroom to another. The Head of Area Based Management Unit, Linda Mbonambi, said without an education we won't be able to build a nation.

"This is about enabling our children to have access to much needed books. We need to ignite the flame of reading in our children. This public-private partnership shows that we are really moving forward as a country," said Mbonambi.

Recently a literacy project was carried out by the United Nations Development Programme and it showed that in terms of literacy, South Africa was ranked 123



ON DISPLAY: Pinetown District Director Nkosinathi Chonco, Ahmed Motala from New Africa Education Foundation and Head of Area Based Management Linda Mbonambi show off books during the donation of 20 mobile libraries.

Picture: GUGU MQADI

our children does not only rest in the shoulders of the educators, each one of us should play a part in ensuring that every child is supported to learn and reaches his or her full potential. We hope this donation will go a long way in improving literacy level in our province," said Motala.

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