Joburg's bid to create viable settlements

The Citizen Online
13 October 2011

JOHANNESBURG - Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC) in the City of Johannesburg's Housing department Dan Bovu says they remain committed to creating sustainable human settlements and improving the quality of life for its residents.

He said this during the demolition of the Dlamini informal settlements in Soweto.
Residents who had been occupying the piece of land in question, have now been relocated to Lehae, near Lenasia, south of Johannesburg.

The Dlamini informal settlement had been partially removed previously but the department ensured that anything that resembled a shack was totally removed yesterday.

"This is a demonstration that we are serious about the programme of formalisation of informal settlements as the city.

"We had committed to the Executive Mayor as part of our 90-Day Programme that we will eradicate three informal settlements in Soweto and today we have begun just that," he said.

The 90-Day Programme targeted Dlamini, Mshenguville and Old Vista informal settlements.

Bovu also promised residents of the surrounding area that the cleared land would not be invaded again.

"The cleared land from Dlamini and Mshenguville will be handed over to Pikitup and City Parks respectively.

"We will also work closely with law enforcement to ensure that this land is not invaded," he said.

Residents were also encouraged to work with the City and report any activities that resembled invasion of the land.

Lehae is a mixed-income development that upon completion will yield socio-economic amenities and 5 344 units which are split as follows:

- 3 066 subsidy houses (RDP)

- 770 rental units.

- 1 508 bonded units.