

# Street alive event kicks off Ecomobility festival

Johannesburg in October to attend the EcoMobility World Dialogues.

Some of the high-profile technical experts who took part in the EcoMobility Dialogues 2015 – held at the Sandton Convention from October 5-9 include Camilla Ween, Director of Goldstein Ween Architects in the United Kingdom; Timothy Papandreou, Director of Strategic Planning & Policy at the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency in the United States, Santhosh Kodukula, Programme Manager at ICLEI for EcoMobility, Susan Zielinski from the University of Michigan in the USA and Iván De la Lanza, Director of Design, Culture and Bicycle Infrastructure in Mexico City.

The dialogues focused on how cities could advance sustainable and low-carbon urban mobility. These

discussions culminated in the release of a “Declaration on Low Carbon Urban Transport” for the COP21 in Paris in December 2015.

Members of the public were invited to quiz the Executive Mayor, Councillor Parks Tau on why the City was hosting the festival at a public imbizo on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 17:30 at the IDC campus in Sandton.

Mayor Tau led an international Mayors’ EcoMobility Ride through the cordoned-off streets of Sandton to express the world municipal leaders’ support for cleaner and greener ways to commute.

All events were free and open to the public.

Johannesburg is the second city to host the biennial EcoMobility World Festival. The first was Suwon in South Korea in 2013.

## Region E hosts youth dialogue



City of Johannesburg Region E hosted a youth dialogue with the objective of establishing a youth programme in the region. One of the key challenges facing youth today, is the ever increasing usage of illegal drugs, unemployment, teenage pregnancy and crime.

In an attempt to address these social ills, City of Johannesburg Region E had resolved to start youth dialogues and deliberations towards the collective development of regional youth programme.



On Friday, 18th September 2015 the youth of Region E came together at the Klipfontein Multi-Purpose People Centre and deliberated on issues that

affect them directly and how these can be addressed. The youth from both Alexandra and Klipfontein showed a great level of enthusiasm and commitment to participate during this dialogue.

During recent months, the City of Johannesburg Region E has made significant strides in improving the environment for youth empowerment; just a few weeks ago the Region launched the Youth Advisory Centre whose purpose is to provide overall leadership on youth employment and development by:

- Providing careers advice and placement services and a programme of internship and Learnership in partnership with the private sector.

- Offering structured support to youth to enable them to play a positive and respected role in society with an emphasis on social cohesion.

These youth development initiatives by Region E are aimed at improving the living standards of young people in Region E, through entrepreneurial, educational, skills training and support programmes.

Region E has formed collaborative partnerships with the private sector and other government departments to give ongoing support with regards to skills training, the Region will continue to identify new partners to help deal with challenges faced by the youth.