



A promising
future

Chapter

6

Concluding thoughts

Johannesburg is one of the most cosmopolitan cities of the world.

It is a city that is life supporting:

- A place of hope and potential for many;
- A city with an economy that is the motor for national growth;
- A city that is home to the roughly four million people who live within it;
- A city that reflects the richness of our human heritage in its large concentration of hominid fossils;
- A city that is made up of an ever-increasingly diverse population – originating from many places, both within South Africa and beyond its borders.

The city faces significant challenges – including the spatial and socio-economic legacy left by Apartheid, the deprivations faced by a large number of people who call it 'home', resource scarcities and difficulties in meeting the needs of residents, and challenges associated with shifts such as climate change, technology, economic pressures and migration. However, this city is a place of gold – with immeasurable potential. Johannesburg's greatest assets and its source of hope lies with its people.

The Joburg 2040 GDS serves as an invaluable tool through which to bring this potential to fruition. However, it will only succeed if all the city's participants play a full role in the path ahead, as part of a collective team. Together, the City and its citizens can address poverty and ensure human and social development, create an inclusive economy and a healthy environment, and establish a liveable, resilient and sustainable city for all – supported by a capable, soundly governed metropolitan government.

With this objective in mind, the City has made use of an extensive stakeholder engagement process in the form of the GDS outreach, to include and empower all its key stakeholders – ensuring that the vision of a Johannesburg in 2040 is jointly formulated, and is one in which all want to be a part. Responses were actively solicited, reviewed, analysed and refined for inclusion. Joburg 2040 GDS, includes a full representation of these inputs. The Joburg 2040 GDS is one in which all can feel pride, knowing that participation has led to a more targeted, informed strategy. The GDS emerges with four core outcomes envisaged for 2040 – to serve as guides for short and medium-term planning and implementation. Through the City's future focus on these outcomes, we envisage success in realising the Johannesburg of our dreams.

“Johannesburg – a World Class African City of the Future – a vibrant, equitable African city, strengthened through its diversity; a city that provides real quality of life; a city that provides sustainability for all its citizens; a resilient and adaptive society.”

Joburg. My City – Our Future!

