



CITY OF JOHANNESBURG

Member of the Mayoral Committee

Councillor Anthea Natasha Leitch

Human Settlements

Media Statement

For Immediate Release

30 September 2023

MMC Leitch ends Heritage Month in style with vegetable garden launch

The MMC for Human Settlements, Cllr Anthea Leitch, spent a special Friday morning at the Riverlea Retirement Village to launch a vegetable garden as part of Heritage Month. The MMC emphasised the significance of the month as a time for reflection on cultural backgrounds, shared history, and community values.

“The newly launched vegetable garden will stand as a living tribute to the wisdom of our elders and the resilience of our community,” said the MMC.

She expressed her gratitude to the residents of the village for embracing the initiative and commended the team that had worked to make the garden a reality. A special thank you went to Nicolle Mortlock from Back to Basics, a charity initiative she runs while working as a property finance expert whose income sustains her community responsibility initiatives. She can be contacted on +27 61 477 4393. She has a strict policy on self-sustaining these gardens.

The residents were pleased at the opportunity to have an open dialogue with the MMC and were given a platform to address some of their long-running issues at the city-owned facility they call home. They invited MMC Leitch to return and cook a meal in future from the vegetables that were planted. She said she would be delighted to.

“As we launch this vegetable garden today, let us not only celebrate our past but also look forward to a healthier and more sustainable future. Let us remember our heritage is not confined to the pages of history books; it is alive and thriving in the hearts and hands of our community. May this vegetable garden be a lasting testament to our shared heritage and our commitment to the wellbeing of all our residents.”

Ends

Cala Schultz

E-mail: AntheaLe@joburg.org.za



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**Media Liaison Specialist
Office of the MMC for Human Settlements
City of Johannesburg
083 657 3602**

E-mail: AntheaLe@joburg.org.za

222 Smith Street, Braamfontein, PO Box 1049, Johannesburg 2000