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## MEDIA STATEMENT

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### CITY POWER LAUNCHES PHASE ONE EV CHARGING STATION, SIGNALLING A BOLD STEP TOWARD A GREENER, SMARTER FUTURE

The City of Johannesburg, through its municipal entity City Power, has reached a significant milestone in its energy transition journey with the launch of Phase One of its Electric Vehicle (EV) charging station. This achievement is part of City Power's ambitious 10-Point Energy Plan, which places Johannesburg at the forefront of sustainable mobility and innovation in South Africa.

This accomplishment aligns with the City's broader strategy to modernise operations, enhance service delivery, and build a cleaner, more resilient energy system. The EV programme will gradually transition the City's fleet from internal combustion engines to electric vehicles, supported by a growing network of charging infrastructure throughout Johannesburg. The launch of the EV Charging Complex in Booyens marks a decisive step in reshaping Johannesburg's energy and transport landscape. It demonstrates the City's commitment to staying abreast of global technological advancements and ensuring Johannesburg remains competitive, efficient, and future-ready.

The transition to electric vehicles is expected to significantly lower fuel costs and boost operational efficiency across municipal services. This initiative is closely tied to the City's ongoing efforts to stabilise and safeguard its electricity network. Addressing infrastructure challenges, illegal connections, and criminal activities remains a top priority, especially as the City currently faces electricity losses of approximately 29%. Protecting critical infrastructure is essential not only to maintain the existing network but also to secure new investments, such as EV charging stations.

The rollout of electric vehicles and supporting infrastructure also advances the City's commitment to a just and inclusive energy transition. As new technologies are introduced, the City is prioritising the reskilling and upskilling of its workforce, focusing on developing capabilities in EV maintenance, battery systems, and charging infrastructure. This strategy ensures that workers are prepared to participate meaningfully in the evolving energy landscape and to create opportunities for young people. This initiative also signals a turning point in Johannesburg's development trajectory—one that balances environmental sustainability with financial prudence.

It embodies a deliberate shift toward innovation, reduced operational costs, and the protection of natural resources, while securing long-term benefits for future generations. City Power continues to reposition itself as a modern, forward-thinking utility, ready to meet the demands of a rapidly changing energy environment. This includes a strong emphasis on community engagement and youth empowerment. The Youth Energy Ambassadors programme, which involves learners from non-paying schools, aims to promote responsible energy use and foster a culture of infrastructure protection within communities.

Additionally, the 2026 Energy Efficiency and Demand Side Management (EEDSM) Schools Competition is now open, with entries closing on 30 April 2026. The competition encourages learners throughout Johannesburg to develop innovative solutions that promote energy efficiency, sustainability, and responsible electricity use. Through partnerships with training institutions and the implementation of innovation-driven programmes, City Power is investing in the development of critical future skills, including expertise in EV technologies, battery systems, and smart energy solutions. This ensures that the benefits of energy transition are inclusive and widely shared.

In the future, the EV programme will include the rollout of a city-wide charging network across City Power Service Delivery Centres, operational depots, major transport routes, and public facilities. The network will also expand into communities and townships, encouraging broader adoption of electric vehicles among residents and businesses. In line with global best practice, the City is also exploring innovations such as battery-swapping technology to improve operational efficiency and reduce downtime in high-demand settings.

The launch of the EV charging station marks the beginning of a broader transformation—one that will see Johannesburg embrace cleaner technologies, unlock new economic opportunities, and strengthen service delivery. As the City continues to invest in sustainable infrastructure, this milestone reaffirms Johannesburg's commitment to building a cleaner, smarter, and more inclusive future for all residents.

**ENDS**

ISSUED BY THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR