



CITY OF JOHANNESBURG
Councillor Jack Sekwaila

MMC: Environment and Infrastructure Services Department

Media Statement

For Immediate Release

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MMC Sekwaila leads bin distribution campaign to promote cleaner communities in Soweto

The Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC) for Environment and Infrastructure Services Department (EISD) Cllr Jack Sekwaila, today led a refuse bin distribution campaign in Soweto aimed at improving waste management services, promoting environmental responsibility and supporting cleaner, healthier communities.

He reaffirmed the City of Johannesburg and Pikitup's commitment to improving service delivery and ensuring that basic services are brought closer to communities.

"This initiative demonstrates our commitment to providing residents with the tools they need to manage household waste responsibly. Access to proper waste receptacles is a critical component of maintaining clean and healthy neighbourhoods," said Cllr Sekwaila.

MMC Sekwaila commended Pikitup for ensuring the continuation of essential services despite the financial constraints faced by municipalities and municipal entities across the country.

"Despite the challenges confronting local government, Pikitup has continued to prioritise service delivery by making resources available for this programme. This reflects our collective determination to improve the quality of life of residents and build communities that are cleaner, safer and more dignified."

He encouraged residents to make responsible use of the bins and to actively participate in recycling initiatives, highlighting the importance of Pikitup's Separation at Source Programme, which encourages households to separate recyclable materials from general waste.

"Waste should not only be viewed as rubbish to be disposed of. Many materials can be recovered and recycled, reducing the volume of waste sent to landfill sites and contributing to a more sustainable future. We urge residents to participate in recycling programmes wherever these services are available."

The campaign also included environmental education and awareness activities aimed at promoting positive behavioural change and fostering a culture of environmental stewardship among residents.

MMC Sekwaila emphasised that maintaining a clean city requires a partnership between government, communities, businesses and residents.

"Creating a cleaner Johannesburg is a shared responsibility. Government can provide services and infrastructure, but communities must play their part by ensuring that littering, illegal dumping and environmental neglect do not become accepted practices in their neighbourhoods."

He urged residents to take ownership of their communities by protecting public spaces and reporting incidents of illegal dumping.

"The cleanliness of our streets, parks and public spaces reflects the pride we have in our communities. Together, we can create an environment that is healthy, welcoming and sustainable for future generations."

The City of Johannesburg and Pikitup remain committed to initiatives that improve waste management, encourage recycling and promote environmental awareness across all regions of the city.

ENDS

**Issued by: Office of the MMC for Environment and Infrastructure Services
Department, Councillor Jack Sekwaila.**
