



Cornubia mall opens for business

SILINDILE MALULEKA

THE newly opened R1.8 billion Cornubia Mall, north of Durban, will create more than 1000 employment opportunities with the empowerment of local community members being prioritised.

During the official opening of the new retail development on 28 September, which is home to more than 110 retailers, provincial and local leadership together with private sector stakeholders, were highly impressed with the future prospects of the mall that will make an impact in the local community.

This development resulted through a public-private partnership between eThekweni Municipality, Tongaat Hulett Development and Investec Property.

During the construction phase, the mall created 2 500 temporary jobs. About 1 100 people were part of a work readiness programme and at present, about 300 people are employed.

Further room for growth has been identified for the mall and plans are underway for a 20 000 square meter expansion. The second phase will include 70 stores.

Chairperson of the Economic Development



Chairperson of the Economic Development and Planning Committee Councillor Sipho Kaunda at the official opening of the highly anticipated Cornubia Mall with Head of Investec Property South Africa, Darryl Mayers, Ward 102 Councillor Siyabonga Thango and traditional performers.

Picture: ZAMANTUNGWA GUMEDE

and Planning Committee Councillor Sipho Kaunda said the opening of the mall, which offers a world-class shopping, entertainment and an outdoor lifestyle, marks a major milestone for its investors.

"The mall acts as a link between a number of communities from varied economic backgrounds and heralds opportunities for employment, skills transfers, economic growth

and development," said Councillor Kaunda.

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Human Settlements and Public Works, Ravi Pillay said shopping malls play a significant role in economic growth. "Through public-private partnerships, we have a duty to respond to urbanisation. When we deliver, the socio-economic context that we are currently facing must be taken into consideration," he said.

Not far from the new retail development is Cornubia, which one of the largest integrated human settlement projects countrywide and one of three national priority projects.

When complete, the area will boast about 28 000 mixed income housing units, light industrial factories, retail parks, various social amenities and various businesses.

silindile.maluleka@durban.gov.za