

Johannesburg Housing Company pioneers housing development in Cosmo City

Johannesburg Housing Company (JHC), a non profit private company that provides value for money rental accommodation, is pioneering the provision of affordable accommodation in Johannesburg's northern residential area of Cosmo City.

The company, which was formed in 1994, is making strides in providing affordable accommodation in Cosmo City through the Hlanganani Housing Project.

The Hlanganani Housing Project consists of 280 one and two bedroom rental apartments in 21 two and three storey walk-up blocks on a 2.3 hectares piece of land.

According to Carel De Wit, Johannesburg Housing Company Operations Manager, the complex being developed in Cosmo City will provide tenants with a favourable environment to live in.

He says the complex being developed will have sufficient on site parking and 24-hour access control in a secured setup.

De Wit says the layout allows ample space between blocks for children to play and for social gatherings.

The Hlanganani Housing Project is being developed at a total cost of R85 million.

De Wit says work on the Hlanganani Housing Project is going on well with more than 40 per cent having been completed.

He says he is happy with the progress of the project that is being managed by Profica (Pty) Ltd, a professional construction project management company, Basil Read as the main contractors and Knutton Consulting managing the civil engineering works. ASA Architects has been behind the architectural design of the houses.

Says, Chad Dunkley, Senior Project Manager for Profica, " Basil Read are progressing well despite the teething problems with emerging contractors etc....."

Carel De Wit says JHC works with other independent service providers in the provision of value for money accommodation.

He says the project has been designed to be as environmental friendly as possible in terms of the materials used on the apartments.

"We have tried to make the project as environmentally friendly as possible. This range from amongst others, choices of materials, excellent roof insulation, using solar power where possible to planting trees," he said.

The project that started in August 2008 is likely to see first tenants moving in by October 2009.

Cosmo City is a Greenfield development of 1 105 hectares, 25 km north west of Johannesburg CBD.

The JHC is well known for its best international standards of management and maintenance and levels of customer satisfaction, rental arrears, bad debt and vacancies are admired by social housing institutions world wide.

Innovative architectural design and thorough management have become the JHC trademark, as have its firm, fair and caring approach to building management and administration.

End...