

## New taxi rank opened at Eastgate Shopping Centre

Liberty Properties officially opened its new taxi rank following an investment of approximately R7 million at Eastgate Shopping Centre in Johannesburg. The relocated, upgraded rank will function as a key commuter hub for the broader eastern suburbs of Johannesburg.



The centre, owned by the Liberty Group and managed by Liberty Properties, is amongst the largest super regional malls in the country and recent research shows that 30% of its shoppers travel there via public transport.

Commenting on the new rank, Maurice Mdlolo, chief operating officer for Liberty Properties said Eastgate has been a landmark in the area for more than thirty years, and it's an important part of their business strategy to work together with the community that supports them. "The Ekurhuleni Council had been looking for a suitable space to house a prominent taxi rank for some time, and the Eastgate precinct presented the ideal solution. For the centre, it's an excellent opportunity to offer a significant percentage of its shoppers a more convenient transport experience."

## Easier access to centre

Hester Wasserfall, deputy manager for Eastgate Shopping Centre, adds that the relocation of the taxi rank provides shoppers with easier access to the centre. "We worked closely with the four taxi associations operating in the area to agree on the chosen location as well as the various requirements. The upgraded site is a modernised, larger space able to accommodate 140 bays. It is also under cover with improved public facilities. Liberty Properties will be responsible for providing a clean, secure environment for all commuters using the new facility."

The new Eastgate rank is located near the Mica Store with easy access via Entrance 5 and 6 into the centre. The relocation from the previous site just off Bradford Road will also relieve an element of congestion experienced during peak travel times.

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