

Waterfront out of starting blocks



GROUND-BREAKING: (left to right) CEO of Safari investments Namibia Francois Marais, Hans-Peter Schulz of Namibia Construction, Swakopmund mayor Juuso Kambueshe and the governor of Erongo, Cleophas Mutjavikua and Kiki Pashiou, director of Safari Investments. Photo: Floris Steenkamp

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Swakopmund's long-anticipated Waterfront project, Platz am Meer, is officially out of the starting blocks, following a ground-breaking ceremony on Tuesday during which both the governor of Erongo Cleophas Mutjavikua and the mayor of Swakopmund, Juuso Kambueshe gave the official nod of support to the owner of the project, JSE-listed Safari Investments.

The civil engineering works to the project has largely been completed and construction on this multi-million Namibia Dollar commercial property project is expected to commence within weeks. According to Safari Investments, the first phase of the construction project is due to open by the close of 2015. Platz am Meer will offer all-weather shopping amenities, sea-view restaurants and coffee shops to the taste of both local and foreign visitors. The breakwater and boat slipway will also lure swaths of the boating community and enhance the seaside ambience intended with the project. The developer was reluctant to name the exact price tag of the project, but explained a second phase to the project must also be taken into account which will include an expansion of the shopping complex and add 40 upmarket apartments.

Also present at the ground breaking ceremony was the chief executive officer of Safari Investments, Francois Marais, who expressed his business confidence in Swakopmund. Also present were the owners of Namibia Construction, which is the main contractor of the project.