

## Jewel City to receive major revamp

Jewel City, a high-security district in the eastern part of the Johannesburg CBD, is once again receiving a major R40 million revamp due for completion by year end, according to Redefine Properties.

A precinct of six city blocks, Jewel City is home to about 300 diamond dealers and the base for the regulatory Diamond Board and State Traders Association.

In existence for the past 21 years, Jewel City initially received a major revamp in 2007 by the Johannesburg Development Agency (JDA).

Streets were upgraded and new lighting, artwork, street furniture, paving and kerbing, and much needed greenery was added to the precinct,

As part of this critical inner city renewal project, Redefine Properties has added to this upgrade with the completion of a R30 million extension to the new head office of the Diamond Board and the State Trader.

Mike Ruttell, Group Property Development Manager for Redefine Properties confirmed that the refurbishment had just seen the Diamond Board moving into Regulator House, an area which had been increased from 1 630 square metres to 2480 square metres, including the provision of a secure loading bay.

The new head office would include state of the art training and conference facilities.

"Additional space has been created for the State Trader who now occupies a space of 600 square meters."

Ruttell said as part of the development, additional security had been added to the precinct. Over and above the Regulator House spend, Redefine was spending an extra R10 million.

"We created a dedicated visitor parking area comprising 137 bays and have moved the sign-on station for visitors closer to this new visitor parking area.

"Tenants now have their own staff parking with a separate entrance which increases security in the precinct. We have also introduced X-ray scanners at the photo ID points before visitors access the actual precinct."

To encourage added foot traffic and trade within Jewel City, Redefine has reconfigured some of the existing space to create a new 76 square metre retail shop. This is the first of many more retail offerings in the precinct.

The current phase of the development is due to be complete in December 2011.

For more, visit: <https://www.bizcommunity.com>