

## 'City of the West' takes shape



**P**ILING, earthworks, retaining structures and columns of Westtown Square are virtually all complete and the walls of the

50,000 sqm retail experience, the first project within Westtown, are going up.

The vast, 100 hectare site is a hive of activity, with local contractors Stefanutti Stocks heading up the construction work with approximately 500 people currently on site.

"The speed at which the development team is moving is testament to our unequivocal commitment to the long-term realisation of this ultimate R15 billion investment in eThekweni," says Carlos Correia, CEO of Fundamentum Property Group.

"As the first development activity within the greater 100 ha Westtown development, Westtown Square completely moves away from the 'mall concept'. It brings together shopping, dining, living and recreation for all ages, with a national tenant mix enhanced by local niche offerings; all within a setting that reflects the unique character and energy of Shongweni."

According to Correia, "Leasing in Westtown Square has far exceeded our expectations. More than 80% of space is already taken by some of the country's biggest retail heavy-weights, each bringing their latest generation, premium stores to the underserved Outer West for the first time, as well as a tranche of well-known national and international fashion retailers."

At a media event hosted on October 11, Correia also announced the involvement of a number of other partners who are coming to Westtown in various capacities.

of the R1,4 billion Westtown Square investment. This catalytic investment, together with the R730 million in roads and other infrastructure that is currently under construction by the eThekweni Municipality in partnership with Fundamentum, has enabled Westtown to get off the ground and will leverage a further R14 billion investment over the next decade.

Balwin Properties announced that it will develop Shongweni Park, a 1 260-apartment lifestyle estate at Westtown. Shongweni Park will form part of Balwin's Classic range of life-style estates and will comprise 20 phases to be built out over the next four years.

### Roadworks and utilities

Working in parallel with Westtown's rapidly changing landscape, the much-needed and critical first phase of the Kassier Road upgrade is moving quickly (30% of the project is already complete), with the use of traffic by-pass roads to reduce traffic impacts and inconvenience. The next phase of construction includes arterial access roads, bulk water and wastewater infrastructure and is due to commence shortly.

Kassier Road Phase 1A, covering the 3km section from the N3 to Milky Way (MR559), is due for completion in March 2024. Phase 1B, from the N3 Shongweni interchange heading north to the Hillcrest Hospital/Alverstone intersection, will open in advance of the official opening of Westtown Square in March 2025, with The West Private Hospital, warehousing and logistics sub-precinct and the first tranche of residential units, being phased in around the same time.