



From left: David Plato (Green Cross), Charles Esau (ward councillor), Lizette Johnstone (ECID), Andy Kurz (Illumina Lighting), Siyanda Dinginto (SM Mart) and Timothy Isaacs (Medi Post).

# Epping is going green

CARINA ROUX

**T**he Epping City Improvement District (ECID) recently awarded the first Green certificates to businesses that are participating in their Green initiative. The initiative was launched about a year ago when the ECID joined forces with SM Mart Waste Management, with the project being run in association with Wasteplan recycling facilities.

Recyclables are collected on a weekly or monthly basis – depending on the amount – from companies in Epping that are managed

by the ECID, explains Lizette Johnstone, ECID manager.

“The collections are outsourced to smaller businesses, thereby generating job creation and giving back,” she says.

The materials are transported – at no cost to the companies – to Wasteplan facilities, which are also situated in Epping. Some of the regular participants who received Green certificates, recognised by Wasteplan and the City of Cape Town, are Green Cross, Medi Post, Illumina Lighting and Prima Toys.

Johnstone says a portion of the

money generated goes to the ECID, which in turn supports charity organisations. Among these are the Langa Baptist Church and the Church of Nazarene in Bonteheuwel, which both run soup kitchens. Money has also been donated to the Cart Horse Protection Association in Epping.

SM Mart Waste Management was founded by Siyanda Dinginto with the purpose of creating jobs and minimising waste going to the landfill, says Johnstone.

They also run recycling programmes with schools in the township.