
Muizenberg Improvement District: Cleaning and Gardening Services

Monthly Report

August 2016

For review: 02/2014

OPS_002_v001

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31 August 2016

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1 INTRODUCTION

NCC Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd (NCC) was appointed as the service provider for the cleaning and greening services within the Muizenberg Improvement District (MID), with the mandate to provide a cleaning and maintenance/gardening service team tasked with the following responsibilities over a one-year period:

- To ensure that pavements, streets and fences in the MID area are kept clean and free from litter and weeds;
- To ensure that threats to public health and safety are reported to the MID office; and
- To ensure that various formal and informal green areas are properly maintained, regularly watered and kept free from weeds and litter.

2 OPERATIONAL AREAS

The MID has been divided into 4 operational areas (Figure 1). These areas can be ranked according to their priorities, the latter which has been determined based on the following criteria:

- The volume of people that visit the area on a daily basis;
- Areas where litter build up is rapid and needs constant attention;
- Tourist hot spots;
- Public infrastructure and venues;
- Number of planted areas and gardens; and potential areas where criminal activities could take place.

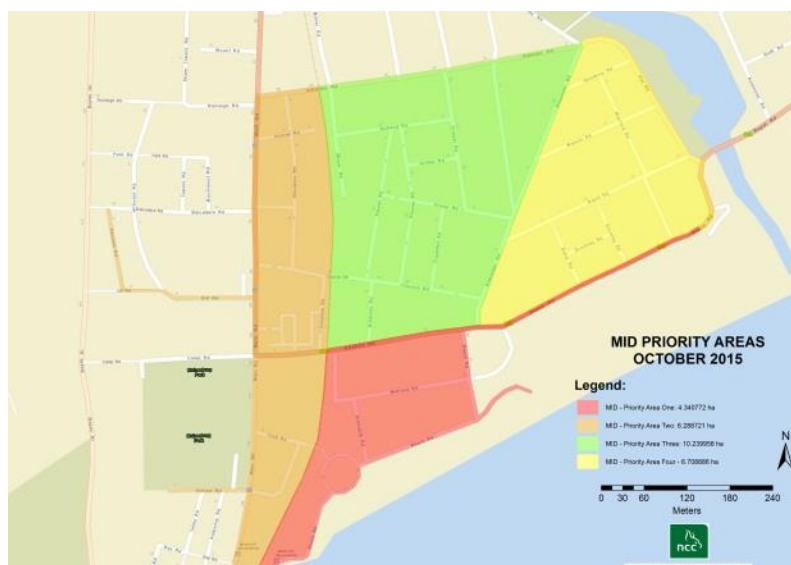


Figure 1: The four Operational Areas of the MID.

2.1 Priority Area One

Standard work operations have continued in area one during August 2016 with litter being found and removed in the usual places (see figure 1). Sporadic heavy rain storms have resulted in a small amount of lost time but nothing consisting of more than a few hours.



Figure 1: Litter in and around the Atlantic road bridge is a regular occurrence due to the homeless people frequenting this area.

2.2 Priority Area Two

Priority two has experienced no major issues during August 2016. It has been noted that even after litter or building rubble has been removed by contractors or refuse collection there is always small bits and pieces left over which the team sees to remove when they have time (see figure 2).



Figure 2: Minor rubble leftover will remain where it lies till the team is able to clean it.

Unfortunately there was a case of larger dumping reported by the team, which as it was left on a corner, makes for identification of the offender property very difficult (see figure 3).



Figure 3: Street corner dumping cleaning by the MID team. This is harder to report as it is not clear where it originated from.

2.3 Priority Area Three

The borders of area three being Church road to the south and Albertyn road to the north tend to produce the most work being the main pedestrian and traffic routes. General sweeping is done in these areas to provide a cleaned look even if litter itself happens to be absent (see figure 4).



Figure 4: General sweeping of Albertyn road to remove fallen leaves helps create a better aesthetic.

Winter rains resulting in mud build up in areas (see figure 5) and the usual Church road litter (see figure 6) have been the only issues in area three during August.



Figure 5: Mud sludge following the August rains has been cleaned up by the MID team.



Figure 6: Church road, always a challenge even though it is rewarding seeing the difference made.

2.4 Priority Area Four

Work has continued without issue in priority area four. Sporadic litter and weeding are the only real issues that the team encounters in this section (see figure 7 and 8).

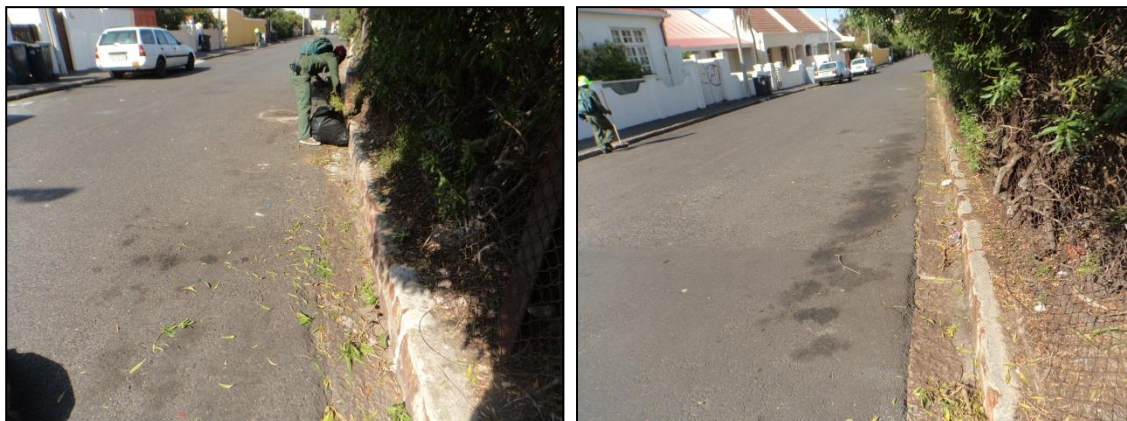


Figure 7: Leaf litter and the sporadic litter.



Figure 8: Annual weeds emerge from cracks in pavements.

3 GENERAL

The team is going to look at trimming the surfers circle *Carpobrotus edulis* which has started creeping over the rock walls. This may take up quite some time but will probably only be done once per month depending on growth.

All members of the team will be trained as stand-by wildfire fire fighters during September in order to continue with NCC's policy of up skilling their staff. Eventually team members will be moved full time into other roles within the company to further their development plans.

The team will all be issued new high visibility vests and be under strict order that these need to be worn over the top of any uniform that they have in accordance with NCC's health and safety protocol.

It has been noted that date stamps were at some stage turned off on the MID team camera. We will endeavour to have this re-instigated and are working on a way to locate pictures taken by the team as often when the camera is handed over at the end of the day they cannot remember the exact street or position of the specific pictures taken.

MID cleaning has been very standard during August with nothing out of the ordinary occurring (see figure 9 &10).



Figure 9: Sporadic dumping and litter spew from vagrants and dogs tearing open bags.



Figure 8: Annual weeds and general litter accumulation.

4 CONCLUSION

The cleaning team managed to remove 850 black bags of waste from the MID area during August 2016. It is concerning to consider what the area would look like if this was not done. On site management of the project has, and will most likely continue to be a team effort with supervisors co-managing the project during periods when staff are away or on leave.

The NCC team is striving to continually improve on the techniques and strategy being implemented to keep the MID clean and litter-free. To date the cleaning team has managed to make a significant impact on the visual appeal of the MID area. The guttering systems are constantly maintained to ensure they operate efficiently during the rainy season. All blocked or broken drains and infrastructure noticed during the cleaning operations have been reported to the MID Office to ensure that they are repaired quickly and operate effectively.

We look forward to working with the MID to strengthen this partnership and improve the quality of our services in future.

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