
Muizenberg Improvement District: Cleaning and Gardening Services

Monthly Report

April 2015

For review: 02/2014

OPS_002_v001

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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.

The team has made good progress during April 2015, which has resulted in a positive impact on the aesthetic appeal of the MID area. New challenges have been identified and processes have been put in place to mitigate these challenges. Dumping activities and vagrants within the MID Area is a concern and it has a significant impact on daily operational requirements. Incorrect waste management, especially on refuse collection days, by both residents and business within the MID area is has been identified as one of the most significant contributors to the amount of litter found within the MID area. The cleaning team has managed the Royal Road garden area and has opened and cleaned the guttering system.

The team is still experiencing some challenges on site. These challenges include dumping, bin days, bin pickers, and neglected properties.

2 OPERATIONAL AREAS

The MID has been divided into 4 operational areas (refer to 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

Melrose Road remains a concern for the cleaning team. On the City of Cape Town (CoCT) waste removal days vagrants visit the area and peruse through refuse bins leaving litter scattered all over the pavements and in the street. Even with the security from the various apartment complexes in Melrose road watching over the bins, the vagrants still continued picking through the bins (Figure 2). Without supervision the vagrants tend to leave the area in a less than desirable state. However with extra security present the amount of litter produced appears to be considerably less.

As the seasons change there has been a marked reduction in the amount of sand being blown into the guttering systems along Beach Road, Atlantic Road and Surfers Corner. Keeping the guttering system clear is essential to ensure their proper functioning during the rainy season.



Figure 2: Vagrants being monitored while picking bins in Melrose Road.



Figure 3: More vagrants picking bins in Melrose Road.

2.2 Priority Area Two

The focus areas identified in Priority Area Two include Main Road, the railway crossing on Albertyn Road, the subway on Church Street, Rhodesia Road, York Road, the railway crossing at False Bay College and Muizenberg Station. Illegal dumping and incorrect waste management remains a challenge in this area.

Roadworks on Main Road, between Atlantic Road and Muizenberg Station, are still negatively affecting operations in Priority Area Two. Sections of Main Road, York Road and the York Road parking area have been excavated and are undergoing construction (Figure 4 & 5). As a result of the risk to our staff, and the requirements of the NCC Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd. Health and Safety Policy and Procedures, the team has been requested not to access sections of this area and therefore the area has received limited servicing during April 2015. As a result of roadwork activities, sand has been scattered throughout the surrounding areas.

A tree that was being used as a lavatory by vagrants was successfully removed from the Checkers Parking area on request by the MID management (Figure 6 & 7). The overgrown vegetation along the railway fence on Church Road located behind Checkers was also trimmed and cleared during April (Figure 9-12).

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Figure 4: Road Maintenance activities on the corner of Main Road and York Road.



Figure 5: Road Maintenance activities on Main Road.



Figure 6: A member of the MID Cleansing team assessing a tree before its removal.



Figure 7: The area after the tree had been removed.



Figure 8: An example of incorrect waste management in Rhodesia Road



Figure 9: Overgrown vegetation along the railway line in Church Road



Figure 10: One of the MID Cleansing team members trimming the overgrown vegetation

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Figure 11: The fence after all the overgrown vegetation had been trimmed



Figure 12: The fence after all the overgrown vegetation had been trimmed and bagged

2.3 Priority Area Three

Church Road has been identified as the most challenging road to maintain within this area. Refuse collection days on Church Road have been especially challenging as the majority of bins are broken, missing their lids, filled beyond capacity or, are sifted through by passing vagrants. It has also been noted that there are too few bins placed in Church Road and that the area in front of the Café (house shop) on the corner of Church and Frankfort Roads is a major contributor to the overall waste within this road.

Local businesses and residents who have refuse exceeding the capacity of their bins, often leave this excess refuse next to their bins. The CoCT doesn't collect waste which is placed next to refuse bins by residents or businesses which results in this additional waste being left behind. Refuse collection times differ weekly which makes it difficult to contain this excess waste. This is of particular concern in Church Road where large items such as chairs, plumbing parts and boards are often left out for collection.

The garden on the Corner of Palmer and Holland Roads has been well-maintained by residents. The NCC team has been weeding and collecting litter in the area surrounding the garden to increase its aesthetic appeal.

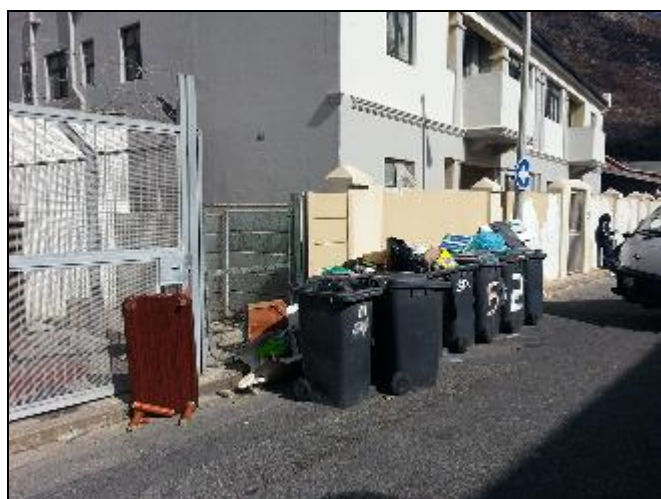


Figure 13: Bins placed out by residence and businesses in Church Road waiting to be collected by CoCT.



Figure 14: Church Road after the CoCT collected the waste.

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Figure 15: An MID Cleansing team member clearing some of the waste left behind by CoCT.



Figure 16: Church Road after the MID Cleansing team cleared the area.

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Figure 17: Another example of waste left behind in Church Road after the CoCT did their waste collection.

2.4 Priority Area Four

The focus areas identified in Priority Area Four include: Alexander, Royal, Maynard and Watson Roads. As the seasons have changed fallen leaf litter has become a continuous problem which the MID Cleansing team constantly monitors and controls (Figure 18 & 19). The cleaning teams have managed to open all the overgrown water gutters on the Royal Road embankment and parallel gardening areas. These gardens and verges are being maintained weekly as it is important to keep the water channels open in preparation for the rainy season. As the rainy season sets in, weeding the gardens within MID will become a priority.



Figure 18: Fallen leaf litter blocking gutters



Figure 19: After the fallen leaf litter was cleared

3 CONCLUSION

The cleaning team managed to remove 1126 black bags of waste from the MID area during April 2015.

The maintenance of the Royal Road guttering system, as well as pruning activities conducted along Church road and at Checkers has contributed to the increased amount of bags used during this month. As such, the garden areas have been maintained and the guttering system has been opened and cleaned. Incorrect waste management systems and dumping have been flagged as the main contributing factors to the large volume of litter found in the area and it is suggested that measures be put in place to mitigate this.

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 being maintained in preparation for the rainy season.

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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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grant Alexander', is positioned above the name.

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