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# Muizenberg Improvement District: Cleaning and Gardening Services

## Monthly Report

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September 2016

For review: 02/2014

OPS\_002\_v001

**PREPARED FOR:**

Chevone Petersen  
Muizenberg Improvement District

**DATED:**

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**PREPARED BY:**

Sean Altern  
T: 021 702 2884  
E: seana@ncc-group.co.za

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

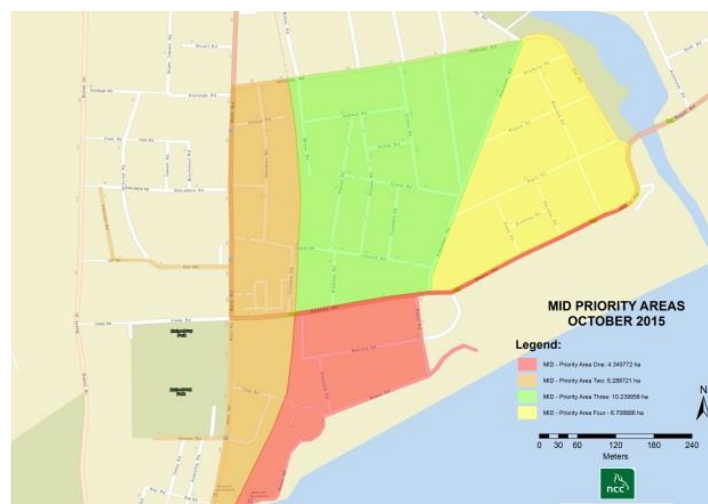
NCC Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd (NCC) was appointed as the service provider for the cleaning and greening services within the Muizenberg Improvement District (MID), with the mandate to provide a cleaning and maintenance/gardening service team tasked with the following responsibilities over a one-year 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 September 2016. As requested the MID team assisted in trimming the overgrown sour fig *Carpobrotus edulis* off the surfers circle rock walls (see figure 1).

The team was requested to leave the various weeds that were growing here in order to allow them to flower and produce some colour in these planted areas.



**Figure 1:** Sprawling Sour fig has been cleaned off the surfers circle walls by the MID team.

## 2.2 Priority Area Two

Priority two has experience some litter spills in the vicinity of the railway line. In certain cases refuse bags have been opened by vagrants in and around these areas and the subsequent spreading of litter is then further exuberated by the South Easterly wind (see figure 2, 3 & 4).



**Figure 2:** Litter along the railway line.





**Figure 3:** Certain areas seem to either catch the litter as it is blown by wind or are gathered by vagrants into these locations.



**Figure 4:** When encountered the MID team cleans up and remove all litter.

### 2.3 Priority Area Three

The garden wall of Royal road has once again been highlighted as a problem location stemming from the pedestrian traffic and vegetation which catches and collects litter. The steps going through this wall are routinely checked and efforts made to keep these clean and clear of litter and weeds (see figure 5). As in other areas of the MID refuse bags have also been opened resulting in litter being spread (see figure 6).



**Figure 5:** Royal road steps before and after weeding.

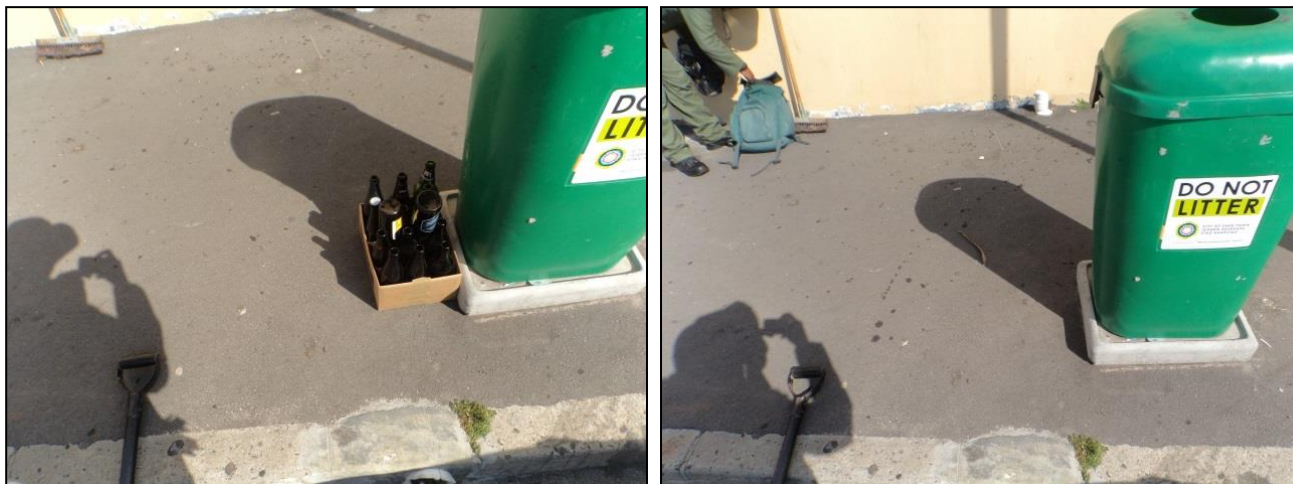


**Figure 6:** Opened bags are re-bagged and sealed by the MID team.

## 2.4 Priority Area Four

Work has continued without any major issues in priority area four. Sporadic minor dumping such as a case of bottles, likely left out for passers-by to take for deposit refunds, are subsequently removed by the MID team (see figure 7).





**Figure 7:** A box of empty bottles removed by the MID team for recycling.

### 3 GENERAL

The MID team has been re-issued with new high visibility bibs and name tags in order to increase visibility and improve the health and safety of team members when working on the streets. They have been instructed to always have these on the outside of their uniform even in winter as this is when they are most inconspicuous when wearing rain suits (see figure 8).

There was a blocked drain in the Church road subway which was reported to and rectified by the city in due course. The team has been instructed to look at removing all unsavoury sticker signs that are placed on lamp posts and hard surfaces. These add to a negative image of the area and are very unwelcome (see figure 9).



**Figure 8:** MID team in rain suits and new high visibility vests.



**Figure 9:** The blocked drain in church road subway and unwelcome advertisements.

## 4 CONCLUSION

The cleaning team managed to remove 930 black bags of waste from the MID area during September 2016. On site management of the project has continued to be a team effort during September with supervisors co-managing the project during periods when staff are away or on leave. A new NCC project manager will be taking over from 01 October 2016 will lead to more stable project management going forward.

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.



**PREPARED BY:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean Altern', is positioned above the contact details.

**Sean Altern**

**Project Supervisor– NCC Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd**

**Muizenberg Improvement District**

**T. (021) 702 2884**

**E • SeanA@ncc-group.co.za**

**REVIEWED:**

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Quinton van Wyk', is positioned above the contact details.

**Quinton van Wyk**

**NCC Project Manager – NCC Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd**

**E • quintonvw@ncc-group.co.za**

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