

Muizenberg Improvement District: Cleaning and Gardening Services Monthly Report

PREPARED FOR:

Chevone Petersen Muizenberg Improvement District

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INTRODUCTION

In August 2013, NCC Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd. (NCC) was appointed as service provider for providing cleaning and greening services within the Muizenberg Improvement District (MID) for 2014. This contract has since been renewed for another year until 30 June 2015, with the mandate to provide a cleaning and maintenance/gardening service team tasked with the following responsibilities:

- 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.

Daily operational requirements within the MID area are significantly affected by dumping activity and vagrants. Incorrect waste management, especially on refuse collection days, by both residents and businesses within the MID area, has furthermore been identified as a significant contributor to the overall volume of litter found in the MID area. Illegal dumping activities have however been reduced during February 2015, when compared to the dumping activity experienced during January 2015 and December 2014. Dumping activity usually occurs within Priority Areas One, Two and Three. During February 2015, Church Road within Priority Area 3 had the highest occurrences of dumping activity.

An increasing volume of sand is being removed from the guttering system at Surfers Corner, Beach Road and Atlantic Road on an ongoing basis, and two additional general workers have assisted the MID Cleansing team with the removal of sand from these areas for two hours every Monday. Roadworks on Main Road, between Atlantic Road and Muizenberg Station are still negatively affecting operations in Priority Area Two.

Other challenges still experienced by the team on site include bin pickers and neglected properties.



2 OPERATIONAL AREAS

The MID has been divided into four operational areas (Figure 1). These areas can be ranked according to their priorities, the latter which were 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 need constant attention;
- Tourist hotspots;
- 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

Priority Area One remains the most challenging area to manage in MID due to the large volume of people who visit this area. This influx of visitors' results in large quantities of waste being produced within this area and these issues are further exasperated by the prevailing South Easterly wind conditions which also cause large volumes of sand to be blown into the area and into the guttering systems along Beach Road, Atlantic Road and Surfers Corner (Figure 2 & 3). During February the MID cleaning team were assisted by two homeless people who were employed by MID to assist with the gutter clean-ups within Priority Area One for

two hours at the start of every Monday. This additional support helped in reducing the work load for the MID Cleansing team and was very much appreciated. As we move away from the summer months the volume of visitors to Priority Area One has started to dwindle thereby reducing the pressure on the waste management operations within this area.

Vagrants are always a challenge in this area on refuse collection days. Melrose Road is of particular concern to the cleaning team, as they are not scheduled to service this area on Wednesdays. As previously reported, vagrants peruse through refuse bins left out by residents and shop owners on Melrose Road.



Figure 2: Sand build-up in the road gutters on the corner of Beach and Atlantic road.



Figure 3: Sand build-up along Beach Road.



Figure 4: Vegetation protruding through the railway fence along Clarendon road.



Figure 5: The railway fence along Clarendon road after the vegetation was trimmed by the MID Cleansing team.

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 6 & 7). 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 February 2015. As a result of roadwork activities, sand has been scattered throughout the surrounding areas.



Figure 6: Road maintenance on Main Road



Figure 7: Another Picture of the road maintenance on Main Road

2.3 Priority Area Three

The team has identified Church Road as being the most challenging road to manage within the MID, as this road consistently experiences high volumes of dumping. During refuse collection, residents and businesses place large items next to refuse bins. These items are not collected by the CoCT Solid Waste during refuse collection and, hence, remain on site after refuse bins have been emptied and removed from site by residents and shop owners. In addition to this, the CoCT waste management teams leave the area extremely untidy after collecting waste (Figure 8, 10 & 11). Majority of the dumping and dirt seems to accumulate around the shop on the corner of Church Road and Frankfort Road (Figure 13). There is also a vacant area previously



occupied by an electrical transformer that is now frequently used as a dumping site (Figure 14). It is suggested that the owners of the shop are contacted and asked to place a bin outside of their shop for patrons to use to reduce littering in Church Road. Signage can also be placed onto or close to the bin asking patrons to please not litter. The area mentioned in Figure 14 has a broken gate that needs to be closed to deter residents from using this location as a dumpsite.

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 15). The garden however is covered in faeces and this reduces the aesthetic appeal of the area (Figure 16).

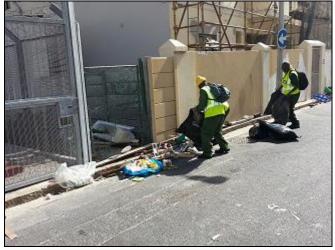


Figure 8: Church Road waste collection site after the municipality emptied the refuse bins on 04/02/15



Figure 9: Church Road after being cleaned by the MID Cleansing team 04/02/15



Figure 10: Church Road after the waste collection on 18/02/15



Figure 11: Church Road waste collection site after the municipality emptied the refuse bins





Figure 12: Church Road after being cleaned by the MID Cleansing team on 18/02/15



Figure 13: A shop on the corner of Church and Frankfort road which is the dirtiest area in Priority Area Three.



Figure 14: An area opposite the Shop in Church Road that is often used as a dumping site.





Figure 15: A member of the MID Cleansing team working in the garden on the corner of Holland and Palmer.



Figure 16: Dog faeces in the Garden on the corner of Holland and Palmer

2.4 Priority Area Four

The focus areas identified in Priority Area Four include: Alexander, Royal, Maynard and Watson Roads. During February the MID Cleansing team focused our attention on Royal Road when working in Priority Area Four. Extensive maintenance procedures were carried out on the Royal Road guttering system during this month with specific focus being placed on managing all the over grown water gutters on the Royal Road embankment and parallel gardening area (Figure 15, 16, 17 & 18). These gardens and verges are being maintained weekly with lots of progress having been made thus far on the Royal Road guttering system. As the seasons change and autumn starts many trees are beginning to shed their leaves. This has resulted in more work needing to be done to clear the gutter systems in this area. Extensive maintenance procedures will continue during March 2015 to ensure the water channels remain open before the raining season begins.



Figure 16: A section of the Royal Road guttering system before being cleared



Figure 17: A section of the Royal Road guttering system after being cleared by the MID Cleansing team



Figure 18: A section of the Royal Road guttering system before being cleared



Figure 19: A section of the Royal Road guttering system after being cleared by the MID Cleansing team



Figure 20: Another section of the Royal Road guttering system after being cleared by the MID Cleansing team



Figure 21: An area between the dense vegetation along the Royal Road gutter previously used by vagrants as a toilet before the vegetation was trimmed.





Figure 22: The Royal Road gutter covered in fallen leaves.



Figure 23: Road gutters filled with fallen leaves.



Figure 24: The Royal Road garden covered in fallen leaves.



3 **CONCLUSION**

The cleaning team managed to remove 1178 black bags of waste from the MID area during February 2015.

Incorrect waste management systems and dumping continue to be the main contributing factors to the large volume of litter found in the area and it is suggested that additional measures be put in place to mitigate this challenge. An increasing volume of sand is being removed from the guttering system of Priority Areas One and Two due to the dominant South Easter blowing through the area.

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 raining 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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