
Muizenberg Improvement District: Cleaning and Gardening Services

Monthly Report

March 2015

For review: 02/2014

OPS_002_v001

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DATED:

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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 March 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. Excess litter is carried by the wind and scattered throughout the area. This has resulted in a large amount of litter being found behind the railway fence between Atlantic and York Roads and has also resulted in the cleaning team having to spend extended periods of time removing litter from behind the railway fence. 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 during March.



Figure 2: Vagrants picking bins in Melrose Road.

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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 3 & 4). 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 March 2015. As a result of roadwork activities, sand has been scattered throughout the surrounding areas.



Figure 3: Road Maintenance activities on the corner of Main Road and York Road.



Figure 4: Road Maintenance activities on Main Road.

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.

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Figure 5: The bushes in Milner road before being trimmed.



Figure 6: Milner road after the bushes had been trimmed.



Figure 7: Overloaded bins in Church Road.

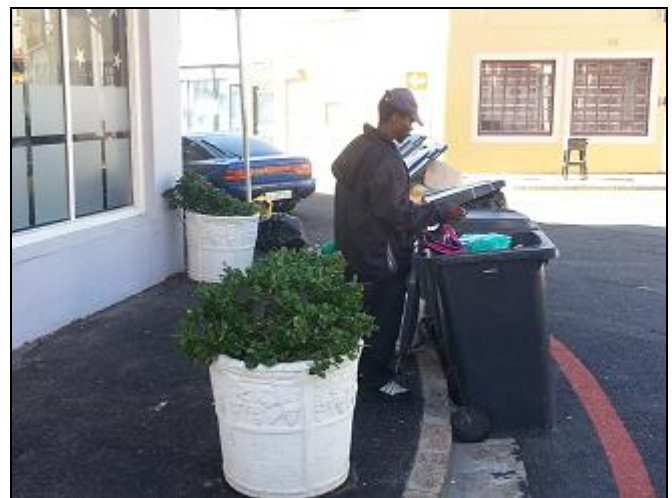


Figure 8: A vagrant looking through bins in Palmer Road.



Figure 9: A dump on Church Road left behind by bin pickers.



Figure 10: A broken bin missing a lid in Church Road

2.4 Priority Area Four

The focus areas identified in Priority Area Four include: Alexander, Royal, Maynard and Watson Roads. The cleaning teams have managed to open all the over grown 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.



Figure 11: The garden on the corner of Royal Road and Alexander Road.

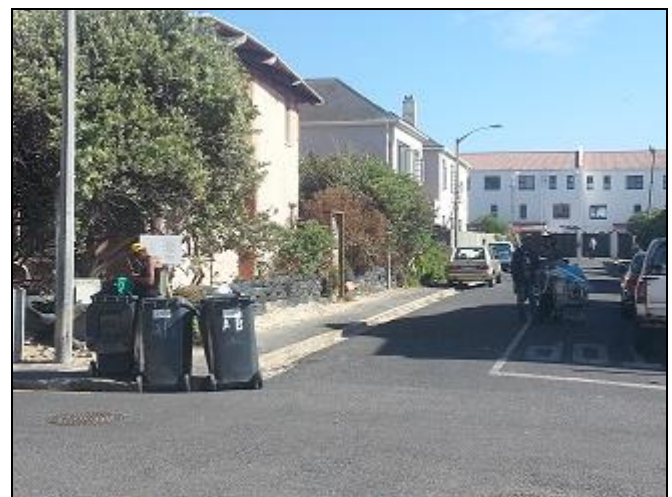


Figure 12: Vagrants moving down Watson Road picking bins

3 CONCLUSION

The cleaning team managed to remove 1146 black bags of waste from the MID area during March 2015.

The maintenance of the Royal Road guttering system, as well as pruning activities conducted along Milner road 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 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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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grant Alexander', is positioned above the name.

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