

December 2016

Start date 1/12/2016 End date 31/12/2016

Compiled by GRIT Security Services

NOTE

Public safety services in an improvement district are only for public space. The 24/7 public safety patrol service provided to the Muizenberg Improvement District (MID) by GRIT is focused on making it safe for people to walk in the streets and enjoy public spaces. This top-up service does not replace the services already provided by the South African Police Services (SAPS), Law Enforcement (LE) and Metro Police. Please take note that the MID Public Safety Patrollers are not permitted to enter private property and residents are responsible for their own home security and safety.

That said, MID recognises that what happens in public space affects the entire community. This is why we collaborate closely with MCSI (Muizenberg Community Safety Initiative - the Neighbourhood Watch) the MID Social Worker, LE, SAPS, Metrorail and various other stakeholders to identify social problems, crime hot spots and trends. This helps all of us involved in crime prevention, to focus our efforts effectively.

At a glance – locations of public safety incidents and by-law offences responded to in the MID area:



Crime Incidents	17	By-Law Offences	12
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Summary Overview

Incidents/Activities	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total	312												
Routine	252												
By-Law Infringements	12												
Crime	17												
Stakeholder Engagement	4												
Ad-hoc	27												

1. Crime Incident Response¹

Theft

Date	Location	Detail	Outcome
01/12/2016 00:24	Palmer Rd	A property owner reported that 3 men broke her pot plant on the pavement outside her house.	The MID Public Safety Officers searched the area but couldn't find the suspects.
02/12/2016 22:00	Church St	A property owner phoned in, complaining that someone was repeatedly pressing her door bell and she was too afraid to open the door.	MID Public Safety Officer Hans investigated and found a woman at the gate whose intention was to inform the owner that she had left the windows of her car open. The owner was happy.
07/12/2016 23:29	York Rd	MID Public Safety Officer Khaya was stopped and informed that a battery was stolen from a Daihatsu in front of Blue Bottle.	The MID Public Safety Officers kept a lookout for people walking with a battery. Nobody was found. The owner was encouraged to report the crime to SAPS.
14/12/2016 13:05	Cromer Rd	A resident called GRIT to say that a woman was robbed on the corner of Fraser and Cromer roads by 4 men.	When the MID Public Safety Officers arrived, the victim had left the scene. They searched the area for the suspects but did not find them.
22/12/2016 13:00	Beachfront	MID Public Safety Officers Xolani and Stemela were busy patrolling the beachfront when they saw an unknown male in the act of stealing a bag from underneath an umbrella. The man started running when he saw the MID Public Safety Officers.. They caught him and took him back to the spot where he had taken the bag but the owner of the bag would not give her name. She just said thank you to the MID Public Safety Officers, put	MID Public Safety Officer Stemela noted the bag was full and that her phone, wallet and keys were also in the bag. The suspect was taken to the GRIT office and interviewed. He was also taken to the LE offices where he consented to his photograph being taken. No further action could be taken because the victim did not want to press criminal charges.

¹ While the MID Public Safety Officers record the names of complainants, their addresses and the names and descriptions of those involved in the crime, identifying information is not disclosed in this report.

		the bag under the umbrella again and went back into the water.	
26/12/2016	Milner Rd	Athi reported a motor bike that was stolen by a couple in front of the owner's house.	The owner was not sure about the time of the theft but said he would report it to SAPS.

Suspicious behaviour

Date	Location	Detail	Outcome
08/12/2016 12:40	Royal Rd	Received a call from a resident in Royal Road about a man who jumped over a wall	The MID Public Safety Officers found the man in Royal Rd. He was searched and interviewed at the GRIT office. Nothing suspicious was found on him. His name and address was recorded and he left for Capricorn.
10/12/2016 16:50	Rhodesia Rd	A concerned resident from Doreena Court reported what she believed to be a drunk man sleeping in his car in front of Doreena Court.	MID Public Safety Officer Chris found the man and confirmed that he was in fact not drunk but waiting for his girlfriend who works at Doreena Court.
16/12/2016 12:18	Church St	A resident reported a young man of about 21 years busy breaking into a car parked in the street.	MID Public Safety Officer Lindekile found the man who had by this time broken the lock. He performed a citizen's arrest and took him to SAPS. He was identified but the police were unable to open a case as the owner of the car was not known. The man was escorted out of the area and warned to return to Capricorn.
16/12/2016	Cromer Rd	A resident phoned to report an unknown man suspiciously roaming the street.	The MID Public Safety Officers investigated and confirmed the address of the man who in fact lives in the MID area.
23/12/2016	False Bay Station	Message received from MCSI about 2 - men roaming around False Bay station.	MID Public Safety Officers were dispatched but couldn't find the men.
25/12/2016	Church St	MID Public Safety Officer Zulu spotted a man roaming around in Church Street.	When the man saw the MID Public Safety Officer, he left the area.
28/12/2016 11:30	Albertyn Rd	A resident reported 8 men loitering and checking out houses in Albertyn Rd.	MID Public Safety Officer MID Patroller Hans investigated and escorted the men out of the area warning them to return to Capricorn.

Fighting in Public

Date	Location	Detail	Outcome
10/12/2016 18:20	Church St	Received a call from a resident reporting a fight on the corner of Frankfort and Church Street.	MID Public Safety Officer Zulu investigated and found it was an argument between a man and his girlfriend who live nearby. They went home after MID Public Safety Officer Zulu warned them.
17/12/2016 12:24	Beachfront	A MID Public Safety Officer called for back-up when he found car guards were	MID Public Safety Officers went to the scene and calmed the situation. All parties



MID Public Safety Report

GRIT Security Services
 91 Main Road, Muizenberg
 MID Public Safety Tel no: 060 850 6260



		fighting with taxi drivers on the beachfront.	involved were warned and the incident was reported to LE
19/12/2016 20:47	Church St	Received a call from an MCSI member reporting rowdy youngsters in Church Street.	MID Public Safety Officers were dispatched. MID Public Safety Officer Luvo found it was local boys. They were told to quieten down. No further complaints were received about them.
25/12/2016 11:15	Muizenberg Park	While on patrol in Muizenberg Park, MID Public Safety Officers found a couple fighting.	The woman was drunk. Both were warned and they left the park.

Drug-related activity

Date	Location	Detail	Outcome
See trends			

Total Crime Reponses: 17

2. Response to By-Law Offences / Ad hoc assistance

Date	Location	Detail	Outcome
12/20016	MID area	MID Public Safety Officers helped drivers who were lost and needed directions.	About 25 different drivers were assisted in this way.
09/12/2016 19:02	Palmer Rd	Received a call from a resident reporting a man harassing people in Palmer Road for money.	MID Public Safety Officer Hans warned the man and he moved on to False Bay station.
20/12/2016 15:42	Beachfront	Received a call reporting a car blocking traffic at the beachfront opposite Primi Piatti.	The MID patrollers dispatched to the scene reported that the car broke down and a tow truck was busy removing it. LE was also informed.
20/12/2016 19:14	Alexander Rd	Received a call from a resident reporting a vagrant who was busy breaking up scrap in the road.	The MID Public Safety Officers went to the scene and warned the man to stop. He immediately left the area with the scrap.
21/12/2016 16:35	Clevedon Rd	MID Public Safety Officers found a driver whose car had broken down and obstructing traffic.	The MID patrol vehicle was called to bring jumper cables and the patrollers helped the driver to start his car.
22/12/2016 09:00	Beachfront	MID Public Safety Officers Noel and Khaya, while patrolling the beachfront found a bakkie with both windows open. There was a dog in the bakkie but he was afraid when the MID Public Safety Officers approached him.	The owners were nowhere to be seen so the patrollers left a note for them.
22/12/2016 15:15	Atlantic Rd	MID Public Safety Officers Lindekile spotted a driver who had stopped his Toyota Avanza and was obstructing traffic while he shouted and argued aggressively with people in the street.	MID Public Safety Officer Lindekile warned the man and moved him along.
28/12/2016 16:40	Palmer Rd	Received a complaint from a property owner about street kids harassing passers-by for money in Palmer Road.	MID Public Safety Officer Hans went to investigate and the kids ran away when they saw him.
28/12/2016 11:30	Killarney Rd	A man was found washing a car on the street.	MID Public Safety Officer Hans informed the man that it is a by-law offence to wash a car on the street and asked him to stop, which he did.
29/12/2016 21:02	Church St	Received a call from a property owner about street kids harassing people in Church Street.	MID Public Safety Officers went to the scene and warned the kids to stop harassing the people.
Drinking of Alcohol in Public Over Festive Season			
14/12/2016 09:55	Rhodesia Road – Behind Checkers Centre	MID Public Safety Officer Zulu found 3 men drinking alcohol in the parking area.	MID Public Safety Officer Zulu explained the liquor law to them, informing them that it is illegal to consume alcohol in public spaces like a road, a park, beach or a parking area. They apologised and left.



MID Public Safety Report

GRIT Security Services
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 MID Public Safety Tel no: 060 850 6260



23/12/2016 11:55	Beachfront	While patrolling MID Public Safety Officers Stemela found a couple drinking at the circle near Balmoral.	LE was informed and dispatched officers to the spot. LE confiscated a bottle of Brandy from the couple.
23/12/2016 23:19	Maynard Rd	3 men were found drinking on the road outside the flat where they lived.	The MID Public Safety Officers explained that they were breaking a by-law and asked them to move inside the property, which they did.
25/12/2016 15:11	Beachfront	Received a message from one of the MCSI alert groups about people drinking near the life guard tower.	MID Public Safety Officers Stemela with Gary Shearer checked the area but found nobody drinking.
26/12/2016 19:39	Beachfront	While on patrol, MID Public Safety Officers found people drinking at the Civic Centre	LE was informed.

Total Responses to By-law Offences: 12 Ad hoc Assistance: 27



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3. Routine activities

Activity	Location	Detail	Outcome
Bin Picking Monitoring Every Wednesday morning	All streets in the MID	MID Public Safety Officers closely monitored bin pickers. We approach those loitering and looking over property walls or leaving litter in the streets and asked them to move along.	Residents have complimented GRIT on the way Bin Pickers have been managed.
Public Safety for train commuters	False Bay Train Station	MID Public Safety Officers regularly stood down outside the station during departure of the early morning train and arrival of the late evening train to safeguard commuters walking along Albertyn Rd. (
Daily Patrols	Church Street Subway	Day and night patrol shifts monitored suspicious activity, erection of new structures and criminal activity.	
	Muizenberg Station Subway		
	Muizenberg Park		
	Surfer's Circle Walkway		
Social Development Field workers		Logged MID Social Development Fieldworkers on site and off site, when they report into the MID area.	

Total Routine activities Dec 2016: 252

4. Stakeholder Engagement

Meetings attended | Media Publicity | Public Information Sessions

Date	Description
12/2016	Noel Fradie, GRIT General Manager could not attend the meeting with Metrorail regarding Festive Season Planning due to the short notice of venue change. He did however receive the relevant information for incident reporting from the MID Manager.
19/12/2016	Photo shoot to promote the additional MID Public Safety Patrols over the Festive Season. Article published in People’s Post. Comment by Toby Megaw, MID Public Safety Director http://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/Local/Peoples-Post/gearing-for-busy-season-20161219
	
Dec 2016	MID Public Safety Officers are encouraged to engage more with community members. We held a coaching session explaining how they could seek out more opportunities to do this.
21/12/2016	At the request of the MID, 4 MID Public Safety Officers were deployed to hand out pamphlets giving residents safety tips and information about responsible giving. They covered the entire MID area and the Wherry Road triangle which includes Wherry, Cromer, Clevedon, and Henley roads).

Total Stakeholder Engagement activities: 4

Compliments and Complaints received

Date	Source	Compliment
23/12/2016	FB Post in response to the recovery of a woman’s bag on the beach	<i>Good job. Let us all support the MID, GRIT, MCSI, Law Enforcement efforts. Keep Muizenberg safe for all.</i>
		<i>As far as I can tell, you did all the action necessary. Preventing crime is a job well done.</i>
		<i>Well done officers</i>

5. Trends and hotspots

Trend: Roaming Unsupervised Children

Because they are minors, the groups of unsupervised children who roam around the vlei, the streets and the beach are a real challenge to deal with. Some of the street children are often high from glue sniffing and at times are aggressive towards the MID Public Safety Officers as they know they can't be arrested. Other roaming children, who are not necessarily aggressive but left unsupervised, are also problematic. The tragic drowning of two children in the vlei on 30th December is a sad example of what can happen when children are unsupervised. Going forward, the MID Public Safety Officers will work closer with the MID social worker and field workers to assist in finding solutions.

Trend: Public Consumption of Alcohol over the Festive Season

The bolstering of the MID Patrols impacted very positively on the management of the Festive Season where the MID Public Safety Officers liaised effectively with LE and the MSCl and generally had good response from LE when we required assistance. The initiative by MID and MSCl to organise a WhatsApp group to alert LE to specific locations where people were consuming alcohol in public, was an excellent one. The MID Public Safety Officers played their part with the driver of the MID patrol vehicle responding to WhatsApp alerts and using back up as needed. We believe a strong message was sent out that Muizenberg will not tolerate the drinking of alcohol in public spaces.

Suggested solution: We recommend this be continued next Festive Season. We also suggest that the MID Board begins now to look at how the selling of alcohol in Muizenberg could be restricted or stopped on key public holidays. This season, hundreds of beach users could be seen queuing in the parking lots at Checkers and outside Blue Bottle, often consuming alcohol right there. Limiting alcohol sales on key public holidays can impact positively on public safety.

Hotspot: Muggings on the catwalk between Muizenberg and St James

This has been an ongoing concern. During December a number of residents phoned or spoke to the MID Public Safety Officers expressing concern and asking what could be done.

While the catwalk falls outside of the MID area, we at GRIT would like to play a role in patrolling this area through a joint operation in collaboration with the MID, MSCl, LE, Metrorail, other security providers and St James Kalk Bay SRA.

Trend: Beach users careless about personal belongings

The MID Public Safety Officers repeatedly saw surfers and swimmers leaving their valuables unattended on the grass banks and paved areas around the beachfront.

Suggested solution: GRIT and MID jointly sponsor a signboard warning beach users of the dangers of doing this and encouraging them to leave valuables in a safe place. MID and or FBTBA could possibly look at the feasibility of rentable lockers?

Trend: Engagement with Bin Pickers on Wednesdays

There are mixed reactions to the bin pickers on Wednesdays but the feedback from residents is that no one likes the mess created and they are wary of pseudo bin pickers casing out their houses. Since October, the MID Public Safety Officers have actively reduced the level of bin picking and have received positive feedback via Facebook posts. Genuine bin pickers need to be made more aware of the MSCl recycling project on Tuesdays.