

## **FOREWORD BY THE CHAIRPERSON**

### **Strengthening Our Foundation for a Safer, Cleaner, and More Connected Muizenberg**

Dear Members and Stakeholders,

As we conclude another year of meaningful progress within the Muizenberg Improvement District (MID), I am proud to reflect on the tangible strides we have made together in shaping a community that is safer, cleaner, and more connected. The 2025 financial year has been one of consolidation and focused delivery — a period where strategic intent was translated into visible results across all core portfolios.

#### **Governance and Continuity**

Our Board, strengthened by renewed participation and clearer portfolio accountability, has continued to uphold good governance practices and transparent leadership. We have sustained a high standard of engagement with the City of Cape Town (COCT), aligning with municipal partners and law enforcement agencies to deliver coordinated and effective service delivery within the boundaries of our mandate.

Regular board sessions, formal reporting mechanisms, and close financial oversight have ensured that our operations remain compliant, efficient, and accountable to the ratepayers who fund this important work. With professional support from our auditors, accountants, and management team, the MID continues to operate on a sound financial footing, closing the 2025 financial year with a healthy cash reserve and overall expenditure at **93% of the approved budget** — a demonstration of prudent fiscal management and disciplined cost control.

We have several Key Initiatives which will impact the current Cash reserve and see us setup a potential revenue stream that will ensure we negate the need for excessive rates increases, in light with the current increases from the CoCT having a real impact on each property owner's pocket.

#### **Operational Impact**

Across our six primary portfolios—Public Safety, Cleansing and Maintenance, Social Development, Business Revitalisation, Marketing and Communications, and Finance and Governance—the MID has delivered measurable impact.

- **Public Safety:** Our integrated safety model combining CCTV surveillance, visible patrols, and multi-agency collaboration continues to deliver strong results. With over 24-hour coverage, expanded monitoring, and intelligence-led deployments, our partnership with ADT, SAPS, and City Law Enforcement remains central to sustaining a secure environment.
- **Cleansing and Environmental Management:** The MID's cleaning team maintained its consistent presence throughout the district, extending coverage to overlooked areas, and adopting an environmentally responsible, chemical-free approach to verge and weed management. Through the **U-Turn partnership** and **Green Jobs initiative**, we have combined community upliftment with tangible environmental outcomes. This will now be straightened with a working **Greening & Environmental** committee to green and uplift the neglected public garden spaces found in and around our SRA.
- **Social Development:** Our compassionate, structured approach to social upliftment continues to balance care and accountability. The Social Development Co-ordinator's ongoing collaboration with safety and cleaning

teams ensures that individuals in need are identified, supported, and referred to appropriate services — reinforcing our community’s shared responsibility. We welcome a strong, organised and energetic Director to this Portfolio, Candice Horn (co-owner of The Commons) and overall rad human being, supported over a three-month handover period by our outgoing director Marion Thomas.

- **Business and Beachfront Revitalisation:** Muizenberg’s commercial heartbeat continues to strengthen. Through collaboration with property owners, entrepreneurs, and civic partners, the area’s reputation as a vibrant, safe, and creative economic hub continues to grow. Several Key Initiatives are being worked in this portfolio by myself as Chair, Mike R who owns this portfolio, several private businesses and individuals alongside the CoCT.
- **Marketing and Communications:** With the soon to be launch of our redesigned website and improved member communication channels, we’ve taken major steps forward in transparency and accessibility. Community newsletters, operational updates, and the expansion of member WhatsApp groups have improved participation and feedback. This is an area of great focus for us and one which we have been unable to unlock during the course of this year, with a well put together plan by the current Director Louis M, we will be seeing a strong emphasis placed on member communication and the marketing of Muizenberg as a staying, eat, work and play destination for our city.

### **Community Partnership and Collaboration**

The progress achieved this year reaffirms a key truth: sustainable urban improvement cannot be achieved in isolation. It is the product of collaboration—between residents, businesses, the City, and community organisations—that makes Muizenberg’s model of shared stewardship truly work.

Initiatives such as **Friends of Muizenberg Park**, **Poison-Free Muizenberg**, and our partnership with **SANParks** and the **Community Police Forum** have strengthened ties between civic participation and institutional support, fostering a culture of shared responsibility that will define the next phase of our growth.

### **Looking Ahead**

As we look toward 2026, our focus will be on **deepening impact** rather than broadening scope. This means refining our performance metrics, completing the digital integration of operational data through Incident Desk, expanding CCTV and AI-linked monitoring coverage, and developing a more measurable framework for social development outcomes.

We will also continue to strengthen our relationship with the COCT, ensuring greater alignment in service coordination and improved responsiveness to municipal reporting. Above all, we remain committed to creating a district that reflects the best of what Muizenberg stands for: **community, creativity, and care.**

To all who continue to serve, volunteer, and support the MID’s mission — from our directors and staff to our partners and residents — I extend my deepest gratitude. The visible progress of Muizenberg is proof that when communities work together with purpose, accountability, and heart, real transformation follows.

Warm regards,

**Jesse Adonis**

Chairperson