
Muizenberg Improvement District: Cleaning and Gardening Services

Monthly Report

July 2016

For review: 02/2014

OPS_002_v001

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DATED:

August 2016

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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.

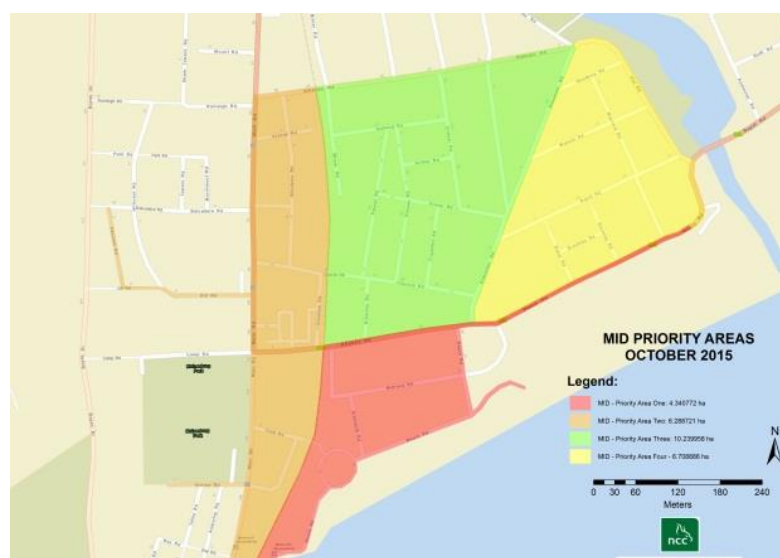


Figure 1: The four Operational Areas of the MID.

2.1 Priority Area One

Standard work operations have continued in area one during July 2016. The winter rains seem to result in a reduction of visible litter likely due to lower pedestrian movement in this area. Homeless people seeking shelter in and around the Atlantic road bridge seem to have increased, or at least become more noticeable, and the accompanying litter in this particular section has appeared to increase as a result. No other issues to report and operations have been fairly standard (see figure 1).



Figure 1: Litter picking dominates the work done in Area 1.

2.2 Priority Area Two

Likewise area 2 has experienced no major issues during July 2016. Litter left behind by homeless people frequenting the area has been the only problem noted (see figure 2).



Figure 2: Litter dumped by homeless people.

2.3 Priority Area Three

The royal road embankment occasionally attracts unsavoury characters and empty alcohol bottles are often found under the trees and along this grassy verge (see figure 3).



Figure 3: Empty alcohol bottles are often found in and around Royal road.

The team has once again been tackling unsightly weeds and grass patches that grow out of exposed cracks in the paving and pathways (see figure 4&5).

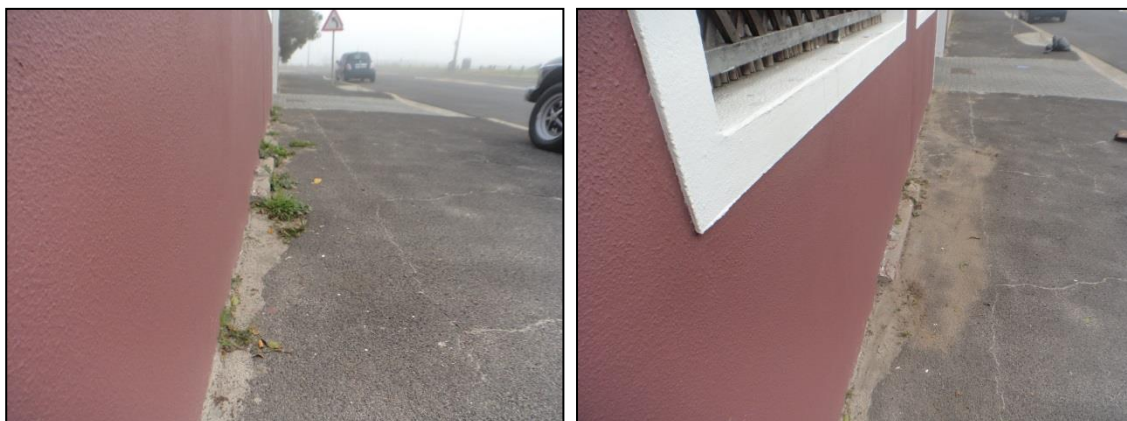


Figure 4: Nuisance weeds detract from the look of the roads.



Figure 5: Most of these species are seasonal but do look scruffy and are best pulled out.

2.4 Priority Area Four

Work has continued without issue in area 4. Occasional overfilling of bins or minor ‘dumping’ of slightly larger items does occur but if small enough are removed by the MID team (see figure 6).



Figure 6: Boxes that are often too big to fit into bins are removed by the MID team if they are not regularly occurring.

3 GENERAL

The main areas of concern coming from the MID cleaning team in and around Muizenberg tend to be Church road, the back of Checkers, Atlantic road bridge and Royal road embankment. These areas also tend to attract the highest numbers of displaced or unpleasant people and subsequent litter and 'ambiance' issues. Most other areas only suffer the general minor litter and weed problems. Whilst high pedestrian places such as the beach front require a lot of attention to keep the image looking good it is these more hidden 'local' areas that tend to be the blemishes of the MID overall area and possibly require more overall attention to sort out (see figure 7&8).



Figure 7: Dumping and building renovations left on pavements creates a negative atmosphere.



Figure 8: Garden waste is also on occasion left on pavements in hopes that it will be removed whilst vagrant movements can leave a trail of litter in sheltered areas.

4 CONCLUSION

The cleaning team managed to remove 930 black bags of waste from the MID area during July 2016. On site management of the project has once again been a team effort with supervisors co-managing the project during periods when staff are away or on leave.

NCC endeavours to ensure all MID cleaning staff wears high visibility vests on the outside of their uniform in order to ensure health and safety standard are adhered to when working on streets. In keeping with the policy of up skilling loyal staffs, NCC will look to promote long time MID cleaners into other projects that will help them learn and grow.

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.

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