



CLIFTON  
CITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

# Hello from the CID! December 2023 update

Jean Tresfon - Marine Conservation Photographer | Taken from the skies on Sunday 26th November 2023

## FROM HELET MERKLING, CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CLIFTON CID NON-PROFIT COMPANY:

Little did we know...how long it would take and how far we would go.

About 1500 days ago, at the behest of several Clifton neighbours who were deeply concerned about destructive fires, deadly crime and growing grime in Clifton and Glen Beach, a small, intrepid group of long-term Clifton property owners rolled up their sleeves to work pro-bono towards the establishment of effective public space management and urban regeneration via the successful CID model.

Our dedicated steering committee consisting of myself, Nerine Pienaar, Lee O'Brien, Tamra Capstick-Dale, Tshepo Mahloele and Christine Cooper managed the exacting CID engagement process of more than a 1000 days.

The City CID team had warned us at the outset that this was going to be a very demanding process, and they were serious. Not to be dissuaded from the task at hand, we followed the intense CID establishment process initiated with the participatory Urban Management Survey – still online – which informed our CID Business Plan.

After a thousand one-on-one engagements with our neighbours about the benefits of the CID and the advantages of the ring-fenced CID funds, the CID Business Plan was approved by the overwhelming majority of our ratepayers.

We are grateful to the steering committee members and several Clifton residents who provided us with seed capital by way of generous loans or donations. We thank each of you for your enthusiastic, generous support and for your CID contributions which are already making tangible improvements to our CID area: our cleaning team from J&M Cleaning with bright yellow and pink vests is easy to spot and with smiles and sharp focus collects the refuse left by others.



The very capable TSU Public Safety Officers and Senixa CCTV Surveillance Solutions assist with dedicated round-the-clock public safety services in the CID area where we welcome visitors to our beaches and promenades in a safer environment.

Soon the Summer Team will be here, augmenting public safety services with Law Enforcement, Metro and Traffic Police and the SAPS. Our two dedicated CID Law Enforcement Officers will be on foot in the new year. These officers are paid from the CID budget once allocated by the City in February.

Taking hands, our community aims to maximise the magnificence of Clifton and Glen Beach, achieve life-changing social benefit for street-people in our midst and protect our R15 billion municipal value property investments via dedicated CID management.

Our CID social services' dream team Ignisive has assisted 7 people who have been living hand-to-mouth out in the open to find shelter and gainful employment as CID community stewards.

Good relations form the basis of all success and the CID engagement with the City officials yield tangible and speedier services. Nothing is impossible together.

The City Budget is understandably focussed on the ever-growing demands across our Peninsula by the urgent need for shelter, densification and to providing services to communities facing poverty and unemployment, serious crime and an influx of more people drawn to the Cape of Good Hope.

The City's Integrated Development Plan (IDP) should be on all our reading lists to understand what our City is facing and how we together create hope for all. As strategic directive, the IDP also informs the CID: The foundation of the IDP is a resilient City, a more spatially integrated and inclusive City with capable and collaborative City government. The City works to create pathways of hope for greater economic participation and social mobility via public infrastructure investment, and creating a safer City with more employment opportunities, more housing opportunities, quality public spaces, reliable basic services and safe, efficient transport options to particularly benefit women. Access to basic services is critical for health and dignity. Our rates contribute to achieving these City goals, yet our local need for dedicated urban management and improved public safety services in our area with high visitor numbers in season is growing.

About 23 years ago, capital flight from the City Centre resulted in the CID model of local urban management and renewal. Today the CID's combined budget is R365m p.a., and more communities are turning to this successful hands-on solution to address growing challenges around public safety, environmental and urban space and municipal service issues. There are now over 50 CIDs in Cape Town and scores more in process.

We are elated that Amanda Kirk is steering our CID ship and look forward to smooth sailing. Choppy waters and storms may cross our waters, but we are ready and here to serve.





## AMANDA KIRK MANAGER

Hello there!

The Clifton City Improvement District NPC has been operational for two months now, and I'd like to share an update on our work with you.

The work of a small team of dedicated volunteers over several years with the support of more than 60% of the community of Clifton, ensured that the CID was approved by Council in late May 2023. The volunteers then mobilised to ensure that all the requirements of operating a non-profit company were met in terms of finance agreements, legislative compliance and other establishment stipulations.

I met the Board of Directors in early July 2023, and was excited by the range of possibilities I could see for the Clifton CID to make a real, lasting, and positive impact on the area, and even more fortunate to be offered the role of CID Manager shortly thereafter.

Officially starting in the position on 4 September 2023, I've really appreciated the warm welcome many of you have extended to me, as well as the interest you have shown in our work and plans.

The Board and I worked intensively during September to ensure that all CID programmes were implemented by the end of October 2023, and we are proud to share the implementation timeline with you.

The Clifton CID strives to make Clifton safer, cleaner, and more enjoyable for all the people who live in, work in, and come to visit the area. The aim of the CID is to complement the City of Cape Town's range of services through coordination and collaboration, with the additional benefit of being able to work with the community to conceptualise and implement public spaces projects as funds allow.



We welcome ideas from the community to add to our project pipeline, so please get in touch with me if you have a good idea for our public spaces.

We also welcome membership applications from ratepayers in the area – membership gives you the right to vote and influence our work in upcoming years.

CID work is not about exclusivity or denying people the right to access public spaces – it's the opposite. The Clifton CID's work is focused on enhancing public spaces and ensuring we do all we can to make these areas enjoyable for everyone throughout the year

The Clifton CID is governed by a range of laws, bylaws, and policies, and we are obliged to submit financial reports to the City each month. One of the measures of success applied by the City each year is how close the CID comes to spending its full revenue allocation on programmes and services to the community while still being able to build reserves for future projects. This requires prudent financial management and cost control, while ensuring that each programme is implemented effectively and successfully, with the level of success being assessed on a monthly basis.





## So, what have we been up to since 1 October 2023?

We have active social media channels, so please follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to learn more about our work. We manage a Clifton CID community WhatsApp group which allows us to communicate both with the wider community and specific sectors within that community, depending on the message that needs to go out.

### CLEANING AND URBAN MAINTENANCE

Our cleaning team has been hard at work, with a total of 3 333 bags filled with refuse from the public spaces, of which 569 were collected from the coastline and green belt, by our work-based rehabilitation team. This is a total of 3 902 bags filled in just 2 months, translating into just over 3.9 tons of rubbish cleaned up from Clifton. Our teams will also be assisting with keeping Maidens Cove clean during the festive season.

We've logged 47 service requests with the City – and we'll keep following up until they are all resolved with assistance from the Ward Councillor's office as necessary. We've tackled graffiti and will soon be launching a pavement cleaning programme, using high pressure sprayers.



We work closely with Nicola Jowell – Ward 54 Councillor, Law Enforcement, SAPS, Metro Police and Traffic, various City departments, as well as community partners, such as the Community Policing Forum and the Bungalow Owners Association. We provide monthly updates to the Camps Bay and Clifton Ratepayers Association.





## PUBLIC SAFETY:

Our public safety team is on the ground 24/7/365, patrolling beaches, roads, pathways, and steps as well as the green belt, multiple times a day. They're equipped with a radio / bodycam with GPS tracking and are supported by a dedicated control room, linked by radio and WhatsApp. They've worked with law enforcement to enforce bylaws, recover stolen property and lost property, make arrests, and to alert SAPS to issues related to possession of illegal substances and driving under the influence. They proactively engage sensitively and appropriately with day strollers, bin pickers and members of the street-based community to prevent any bylaw violations.

We're in the process of deploying our seasonal team, comprising additional public safety officers. "spotters" and a public safety kiosk.



We've got the CID area covered by cameras that are monitored 24/7/365 on 4th, 3rd and 2nd beach, along sections of Victoria, Kloof and Clifton Roads, around Glen Beach as well as a thermal camera covering the mountain and green belt. In addition we have Licence Plate Recognition cameras on Victoria and Kloof Roads. Soon, we'll have coverage of the 3rd beach car park, the Ridge and a large section of Kloof and the green belt. We expect to have close to 70 cameras active by mid-December.

We've recorded 46 bylaw violations, the majority linked to alcohol related offences. Many fines were issued, and alcohol confiscated by Law Enforcement working alongside our public safety team.

Our team has worked 5 operations with Law Enforcement and Metro Police, so ensuring that the beaches were safe and enjoyable for all.

If you need help in the public spaces, or see something suspicious, please call or WhatsApp our 24/7/365 CID control room on 076 210 0827.





## ENVIRONMENTAL UPGRADING:

Our greening team has already tackled Glen Beach, Nettleton Road, Clifton Road, all the steps and pathways between Kloof and Victoria, those leading down to the beaches, and the 4th beach green spaces. In the upcoming weeks, the team will be working along Victoria and Kloof Roads.



## SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT:

Funded by the Clifton CID, our partner organisation Ignisive has assisted 7 formerly street-based people into shelter and provided them with psychosocial support to enable their life journeys. We've launched our work-based rehabilitation programme, this team "stewards" the coastline as well as the green belt, and assists in other areas where needed in return for a stipend and other support.

One individual assisted through this programme has lived in and around Clifton for 35+ years. It's been wonderful to be part of his journey to a place of safety, to obtaining an ID document, and to be stabilised on chronic medication.





With thanks:

Thanks and appreciation go to our partners, who've enabled our success so far. We're grateful to work with a range of such committed and professional partners – the multiple departments within the City of Cape Town, SAPS, TSU, Senixa, J&M Cleaning, Green4Life Gardeners and Ignisive. We're also supported by Accounts Star, Surefire Communications, Catalyst Communications, Niche Co and Narcom.

I WISH EACH ONE OF YOU A SAFE  
END TO 2023 AND HAPPY TRAVELS  
TO THOSE GOING AWAY.



CLIFTON CID



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