

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Jedd Williams

This is the 2nd Annual General Meeting of the Montague Gardens Marconi Beam NPC otherwise known as the Montague Gardens Marconi Beam Improvement District or simply the MMID, which was officially established on the 1st July 2017.

Hugh Ferguson and David Enticott joined the Board of Directors at the 2018 AGM. Jonty de la Porte (a founding director) and Conan Cole tendered their resignations during the past year.

To make the operations of the MMID more sustainable going forward, we are looking for property owners or their appointed representatives, to volunteer to either become directors or form part of sub-committees who report to the MMID Board of Directors.

There are six main programmes that a CID is responsible for in terms of its mandate. Each programme or portfolio should have a corresponding director.

The MMID Board is currently made up as follows:

- **Chair:** Jedd Williams
- **Operations:** Hugh Ferguson
- **Safety & Security:** Tony Pronk
- **Cleansing:** David Enticott
- **Urban Management:** Piet de Klerk (**Vice Chair**)
- **Social Development:** Camilla Keating
- **Marketing & Public Relations:** Vacant
- **Finance:** Jedd Williams

The MMID have 3 permanent staff members to manage and undertake the day-to-day operation of the MMID on behalf of the MMID Board:

Gary Bower: Operations Manager

Lianne Lippert: Administrative Manager

Alda van Niekerk: Projects Coordinator

I would like to thank all of our Directors, past and present, as well as our staff for the time and effort that they have put into the MMID to date.

I would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to the City of Cape Town Urban Management Directorate, namely Eddie Scott and his hard-working team, who have supported and guided us throughout the process of establishing the MMID, as well the continuing support and guidance during the last two years.

WHAT THE MMID DOES

- A CID provides over and above / top-up services (security, cleansing and social services) to those already provided by the City of Cape Town (CCT)
- A statutory body established under the SRA By-law of the CCT
- Receives funds by means of an additional rate collected from rate payers by the City and paid to the MMID

WHAT THE MMID DOES NOT DO

- Does not replace the CCT, SAPS & other government services, who still supply the services that they are mandated to provide.
- Is not responsible for privately owned properties
- Legally cannot enter private properties for any reason whatsoever, especially in pursuit of criminals or to search for criminals.

The success of a CID can to a large extent be attributed to partnerships and relationships. We have established good working relationship with various CCT departments. Milnerton SAPS also support the MMID when we have needed them. We look forward to expanding and improving on these relationships in the years to come.

Safety & Security operations have been outsourced to Star Rapid Response and Cleansing operations to Vizual Multi Services Group. They have both performed very well since their services have been employed and we are confident that our relationship with them will continue to strengthen.

Although we operate on a relatively small budget, we have still managed to achieve a tremendous amount over the past 2 years.

We are confident, that through the support and partnerships of all property and business owners in the area, that we will be able to achieve more by the end of the current financial year, being June 2020.

Combatting crime and cleaning up the area have been major achievements. Levels of crime and grime are linked in terms of the well-known “broken window strategy” - criminals tend to stay away from cleaner and well looked after areas.

Feedback from property and business owners have been positive, where they have noticed a substantial difference in the area, in both areas.

The MMID still faces challenges, which could be attributed to the poor state of the global economy. Homelessness, petty crime, drug dealing as well as drug taking are going to be hard to combat.

Illegal dumping is proving to be a major problem in the area, where business owners in the area contribute to this problem.

PROJECTS AND GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

- **Commence installing CCTV cameras and equipment.**
This has been a learning curve in lieu of the various types of hardware and related software on the market. With this said, we contracted the services of a security risk analyst, who put together a risk assessment which will assist us in the placement of CCTV cameras.
- **Continue upgrading main intersections and planting verges with indigenous, drought tolerant ground cover**
As part of the MMID’s Mandate, the MMID employs unemployed people within the area to assist with cleaning, bush clearing as well as the Urban Management projects. These

projects have received positive feedback and we plan to do more intersections this financial year.

- **Promoting the “MMID Green Club”**

Property/Business Owners in the area are encouraged to maintain their verges and keep them neat and tidy. Competitions will be held throughout the year and those that are selected receive certificates and MMID Green Club award boards.

These properties will be promoted through our Quarterly Newsletters and other forms of Marketing platforms.

We have also made progress in maintaining and renewing the surrounding area.

One of the most notable projects was the repair of the vibracrete wall along Omuramba Road bordering Joe Slovo Park, which was unfortunately badly damaged in most sections and in a bad state of disrepair.

As part of the MMID’s mandate to ensure that the area is uplifted as well as ensure the MMID area is always considered an area to be invested in, the wall was repaired so that one of the major thoroughways in the MMID area is no longer an eyesore for the public.

INFORMAL TRADERS

The MMID is working with the CCT’s Department of Economic Development to compile a workable plan that will manage informal traders in a way that will benefit all stakeholders as far as possible:

- Considering the high rate of unemployment, the MMID consider that some of these traders provide a service in certain parts of our district
- We continue to address the existing traders carefully to ensure that they do not infringe on the rights of property owners and businesses. Informal traders close to retail operations and entrances to buildings or properties are moved with the assistance of Law Enforcement
- Untidy sites are monitored, whereby the traders are addressed to assist in keeping their site clean
- Suspicious behaviour is reported, followed up and action taken to resolve the complaint with the necessary officials

ILLEGAL DUMPING

Illegal dumping is still a major problem that the MMID have been struggling to control. This is despite vehicles having been impounded when suspects have been caught.

We are hopeful that the problem will be reduced considerably when CCTV cameras are installed, whereby offenders will be caught and prosecuted.

VAGRANCY & HOMELESS PEOPLE

This issue is reflective of the global economy and lack of employment opportunities.

The MMID is dedicated to curbing the problem of vagrancy/homelessness.



With the assistance of CCT Street Persons Programme and the Displaced Persons Unit, the MMID have been able to assist homeless people get back to their families and off the streets.

CONCLUSION

To make more of an impact, the MMID needs property owners and business owners to participate in our activities and initiatives, as well as give insight into great ideas that could assist the MMID to fulfil its objectives.

We need your help to meet our mandate and to exceed it.

Our Area, Our Community, Our Safety, Our Shared Responsibility