

It gives me pleasure to present the Chairman's 11th Annual Report of the Paarden Eiland City Improvement District for the period ending 30 June 2016.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

- The Executive Board, agreed to at the 10th AGM, remained without change. Les Holtzhausen (Chair); Dino Gomes (Vice Chair); Eric Stephen (Public Officer); Morné van Staden (Safety & Security); Glen Brockhoven (Environmental & Maintenance); Howard Spiro (Social Responsibility); Rob Tiffin (Company Secretary). Councillor Bernadette le Roux continued to support PECID as an ex-officio member.
- Two informal budget meetings (July & September 2015) and seven executive meetings (July, August & October 2015 and February, April, May and June 2016) were held. Three site meetings to discuss Zoarvlei and border fencing proposals also took place.

I can proudly confirm that our area continued to be serviced on all fronts by the City and that the complementary work done by our own teams has established an agreeably high expectation of what can be accomplished by the partnership which exists between PECID and the City.

ACHIEVEMENTS & ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR - Measured against the goals set in our business and implementation plans.

E ENVIRONMENTAL GOAL E1.1 – E1.11

- PECID's "top-up" to municipal services continued throughout the year, with our environmental team spending most of their time keeping the 40 (forty) roads, and double the number of kerbs and pavements, clear of litter, sand and weeds. The City's line department responsible for doing the main cleaning was sadly lacking and the main roads were treated to only the occasional "wipe-down"; something which may change now with the new manager of Cleansing, Eugene Hlongwane, being encouragingly supportive.
- Recyclable and normal waste collected by PET was systematically loaded onto the PECID Ford Ranger and deposited at the Waste Depot in Beach Road, Woodstock.
- In terms of the City's development approach as per the IDP, we joined hands with Business Areas Management Branch of the Economic Development Department, and presented suggestions to the proposed new Informal Trading Plan for Ward 55, with particular reference to Paarden Eiland. We look forward to seeing this come to fruition, where control of street trading sites will be properly demarcated and effectively regulated.
- To assist us in crime detection, protection and prevention, all roving traders accepted our request to report their presence in the area to the PECID Office.
- Our representation on the Protected Areas Advisory Committee kept us informed on all matters relevant to the Diep Estuary Management Plan and more particularly the Zoarvlei section of the Table Bay Nature Reserve.
- In early January, one of our five-man team sadly lost his life in a tragic accident. Roger was a vibrant member of the team and his enthusiasm and fun loving nature is missed.

PROJECT E1.PP2

ASSIST TBNR ZOARVLEI SECTION IN CLEAN-UPS

- To help preserve our wetland border we participated in regular operations to clear illegal campsites.
- These operations were conducted in collaboration with TBNR Biodiversity Management, Law Enforcement Displaced Peoples Unit, Land Invasion Unit, SAPS, Transnet Security and other similar authorities.
- During such operations PECID enlisted the help of casual job seekers, plumping our team to sometimes twenty-five members for the day.
- Recognition of our assistance is regularly recorded at meetings of the Protected Areas Advisory Committee.

- While we may all be trying our best, at huge costs, to keep illegal campers at bay, the vast and unacceptable deterioration of the Zoarvlei over the last three years was brought into sharp focus by our CID Manager, guest speaker at the AGM of the Friends of Rietvlei.
- It is way past time that something much more than "clean-up operations" is done... that is, if we really want to protect our most ecologically sensitive border from becoming a shack-land.
- To this end, Dr Anthony Roberts, CEO of the Cape Town Environmental Education Trust, supported by Koos Retief, Biodiversity Area Manager of Table Bay Nature Reserve, appealed to PECID to contribute to the cost of managing ecologically sensitive areas through their membership support of, what could be loosely termed as, conservation funding. Basically, high-cost interventions would include control of illegal campers, Typha Capensis (bulrush reeds) water-flow management, the re-introduction of sea water and provision of recreation facilities such as pathways, benches, bird hides etc.

The vision was to conserve the wetland system using sound ecological performance for the benefit of property owners, residents and employees who could then safely use the area for recreational purposes.

CTEET had successfully accomplished similar programmes in other areas and proposed the same results could be achieved in the Zoarvlei.

E.2. GREENING & ENHANCING

- Our Environmental Team continued to maintain gardens planted by PECID and neaten verges not done by City Parks.
- We participated in several joint operations with Table Bay Nature Reserve Biodiversity Management, City Law Enforcement Displaced People's Unit, Land Invasion Unit and SAPS, in an effort to minimize the damaging impact of illegal campers on the environment in the Zoarvlei.
- City Parks has stood out from the rest of the City's line departments for their constant support in in all our environmental efforts; and for that, we are enormously grateful.

PROJECT E2.PP1

PROCURE MORE TREES

- The significant partnership between City Parks and PECID saw the enhancement of the President Kruger Street verge alongside the Salt River Canal. With the assistance of a team of EPWP (Extended Public Works Programme) workers, 30 Aloe Trees and five Krantz aloes were planted successfully.
- Three new fan palm trees were also added to Nautilus Park.

FURTHER RECLAMATION & GREENING OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE ERVEN 17458/64/65 (REFER PREVIOUS REPORT E2.PP5)

- At this stage, it is disappointing to note that due to some bungling, or lethargy, in the City's property department, we have been unable to begin this project.
- Although the tenant's lease was not renewed, he has refused to budge, possibly because he is subletting at a very comfortable profit.
- We have been told City Parks is loath to proceed to legal as it could take years before the site becomes available to us.
- In the meanwhile, the site and surrounding infrastructure continues to be severely damaged by the comings and goings of a fleet of trucks.
- It is hoped that by the end of 2016, the tables will have turned and we will be able to regenerate this degraded site into something akin to our successful greening of Nautilus Park.

E.3. POLLUTION

- A number of incidents of pollution of the storm water system were reported and compliance notices issued by Law Enforcement.
- Most businesses claimed ignorance, but all were co-operative.

E.4. MAINTENANCE

- Storm water drain traps were kept clear of spilled debris, particularly during the winter period when choked drains could have caused flooding and, in addition to seven C3 requests, the City's Jet-vac team was regularly seen doing their bit to keep overflows down to a minimum.
- The relevant City departments responded to C3 notifications iro of 23 damaged drain covers, 27 potholes; 2 sinkholes; and 5 illegal dumpings.
- Street and traffic lights reported faulty numbered 77 and 26 respectively.
- An unprecedented 134 water leaks needed attention.
- Seven incidents of illegal signage were reported by PECID.
- The City's Lines & Signs team gave our roads a facelift on both sides of the canal.
- The C3 notification system, whether by email, sms, or directed through the call-centre, is still the most effective way to ask for assistance to resolve municipal issues, or raise concerns regarding the City's service.

PROJECTS

E.4.PP1

REPLACE BROKEN FENCING

- The intended project to replace the broken fencing along Paarden Eiland Road has been delayed for further investigation.
- It was noted by concerned business owners that concrete palisade would block views of their businesses from FW de Klerk Boulevard.
- Quotes have now been sourced for various strengths of Betaview, which the City uses in some areas and at time of this report, further negotiations with TCT is underway.
- The R400,000,00 allocated from surplus funds has not yet been used.

E4.PP3 PATHWAY ALONG CANAL BETWEEN SECTION & CALCUTTA STREETS

- Through Councillor le Roux's Ward 55 allocation, eighty thousand Rand was reserved for City Parks towards this project.
- At date of this report site meetings with City Parks are planned to establish dimensions of the proposed pathway, material to be used and estimated cost.
- Depending on quotes, PECID will either look to match the Ward contribution, or contribute the difference and agreement by members will be sought at the upcoming AGM.

E.5. SUB COUNCIL WARD COMMITTEE

- We were represented on Ward 55 during the course of the year.
- Being kept informed and actively participating in ward Committee meetings, played an effective role in solidifying the partnership between PECID Management and our Ward Councillor.
- An idea, suggested by our CID Manager at a World Design Capital workshop, to use the shape of the world-renowned dolosse in functional street art was employed by the City's design team for an outside table and chair and games in a children's play park. The finished articles are yet to be installed.

§ SAFETY & SECURITY GOAL

Maintain Crime at Current Low Level

We have had an extremely satisfying reduction of crime compared to last year's low record.

S1 & S2 CAMERA SURVEILLANCE & GROUND PATROL

- Thanks to some brilliant teamwork of our Camera Operators and Patrol Officers and outstanding communication with Maitland SAPS and Paarden Eiland businesses, we recorded an extraordinary 10 (ten) arrests in July 2015: 4 for possession of stolen property; 3 for fraud; 2 for trespassing; and 1 for armed robbery on the IRT.
- This trend continued throughout the year and crime stats began to plummet to the lowest level in years.

- Recorded video footage was made available to relevant authorities in numerous incidents of crime, although some was not sufficiently conclusive in the eyes of the law.
- The success of our security has been unparalleled since the establishment of the CID and our six permanent camera surveillance operators and nine patrol officers, all contracted from Enforce Security Services, are commended for producing such exceptional results; a fact which is confirmed by crime stats presented further in my report.

PROJECTS

S1.PP1 Additional Cameras

- Four new cameras were installed during the year; three at developing crime hotspots and the fourth was used to replace a faulty 9-year-old camera.
- With the progression of technology and the improved quality of the new HD cameras, our wireless bandwidth took a beating and alternative systems, such as split-level links with wireless and fibre are being investigated.

S3. SAPS MAITLAND

- Communication and a co-operative partnership between PECID and SAPS Maitland continued throughout the year as is evidenced by our low crime figures.
- Stats compared to previous year
 - Burglary Business 27 down from 69
 - Theft of motor vehicle 0 down from 15
 - Theft from & out of motor vehicle 39 down from 60
 - Armed Robbery 9 up from 8
- Armed robbery made up by 3 on IRT cycle lane; 3 bank followings; 2 armed hi-jackings of courier vehicles and 1 at Environmental Affairs storage were security staff were held up and a vast quantity of confiscated perlemoen stolen.
- Most theft out of motor vehicles occurred by alleged use of central locking jamming devices and remains a very difficult crime to detect. Several culprits were found, followed and arrested by our teams' co-operation with SAPS.
- PECID also depended on eyes of business reporting suspicious vehicles and people, for which we are indebted.

CRIME ON THE IRT ROUTE

- Following robberies on the IRT route, increased patrols between Zoarvlei and Woodstock stations by our Patrol Officers and IRT Law Enforcement, reduced the crime and no further serious incidents took place.
- After a number of reported attacks on passengers alighting from the last late-night buses at Zoarvlei and Vrystaat stations our Patrol Officers took to standing off in those areas to protect passengers walking through Paarden Eiland to Brooklyn. Harassment and attacks have since diminished.

SR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY GOAL

SR1 DISPLACED PEOPLE

- A number of illegal campsites on our borders were identified and resolved through requested operations with City authorities.
- Social Services were called in to assist with relocation of at least one family. They had been repatriated with relatives, but claimed they were not happy and returned to the area shortly thereafter.
- It was disturbing to note that representatives from Social Development were not regular participants in such operations.
- Based on one-day operations, we continued to give temporary work to casual job seekers and assisted over 200 unemployed during the year.

Our social responsibility went beyond humans where our teams helped and rescued other creatures.

- These included 4 dogs; one from certain drowning in the Salt River canal; two amongst heavy traffic on main roads and one abandoned, having been cruelly tied to a tree with a short and torturous rope.
- A number of birds found suffering from the devastating effects of a huge oil-spill from further up the canal, were ferried to SANCCOB, who were also called to assist with rescue as Disaster Management battled to clear the spill.
- Our regular support for CAT with their feeding and trap, neuter, release programmes continued in addition to regular sponsorship from many individuals and businesses.

M MARKETING GOAL

- This is possibly the easiest goal of all to achieve, because a well-managed, clean, safe and environmentally appealing area essentially sells itself.
- Because of its fortunate vicinity, minutes from the City centre, within walking distance of the harbour and strategically connected to all major road routes, Paarden Eiland remains the first choice for many businesses, whether retail, commercial, or industrial.
- Besides its locality, the security and aesthetics of Paarden Eiland remain its biggest drawcard. Where else will you find a 40-road industrial district, boasting an ecologically sensitive and protected wetland area, seven huge parks and public open spaces within its borders and the now extremely popular MyCiti bus route running through its centre? **The answer is, of course, PAARDEN EILAND!**
- Simply said, advertising is not a realistic option to promote interest in the area.
- With the approval by the City of Cape Town, in May 2016, for the extension of the term of the Paarden Eiland City Improvement District (PECID) from 01 July 2016 to 30 June 2021, and based on the positive events and outcomes of the term 2015-2016, we cannot doubt the ability of PECID to sustain its mandate granted by Paarden Eiland property owners.
- The huge interest in investment in Paarden Eiland is indicative of the success of PECID and our undertaking to continually seek improvement, by keeping it safe and environmentally pleasing for all who work in, visit and pass through our area, is non-negotiable.
- PECID continued to represent property owners on several forums and committees including:
 - CAT (Cat Action Team)
 - CID Managers & Chairmen Forum
 - CID Special Forum
 - Community Police Forum
 - Protected Areas Advisory Committee
 - SAPS Joint
 - SAPS Sector 1 Business Forum
 - Ward 55 Committee, Sub-Council 15
 - Zoarvlei Management Advisory Committee

THANKS

PECID's sincere thanks and appreciation go to:

- Councillor le Roux for her unconditional support and assistance, particularly in municipal matters. We wish her a wonderful retirement;
- All City line departments for their ongoing co-operation;
- The City's ISL Office for their guidance and encouragement;
- Maitland SAPS for their enormous efforts to keep tabs on crime and criminals;
- Ward 55 Law Enforcement Officers who assisted with by-law contraventions;
- My fellow Board members, for their commitment to keeping PECID at the forefront of district development.
- And to Patricia for running a good ship and to Brynie and the clean-up team for all the hard work in all weather conditions.


LES HOLTZHAUSEN
30 JUNE 2016