

Your UIP

"Tackling crime and grime in your precinct"

DEC 2015-FEB 2016
ISSUE 42



DURBAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE URBAN IMPROVEMENTS PRECINCTS (RF) NPC



SEASON'S
Greetings

Festive Edition

**holiday
gig guide**

ALADDIN GREY STREET ADULT PANTOMINE

10 Nov - 30 Dec 2015
Greyville Race Course

THE DINOS LIVE EXPO

12 Nov 2015 - 10 Jan 2016
20 Battery Beach Road, Durban

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER'S DESK

While most businesses unwind at this time of the year, the UIP team is working full steam ahead, as the festive season demands closer monitoring in terms of security and cleaning. I am pleased to report that our service providers are planned and ready for another bumper season.

In this holiday edition of Your UIP, we introduce you to the UIP Board, and the new Chairman. We also share our highlights and challenges for the year, with our year-end crime and cleaning reports. Also see our safety and holiday tips, as well as ideas to ensure a fun and safe festive season. Enjoy, and Happy Holidays from the UIP family.

Regards
Colin



PLEASE NOTE: Due to the holidays, there will be no precinct meetings during December and January. Meetings will resume in February 2016.

UIP/Enforce
Crime Monitors



UIP/Enforce Crime Monitors, who take care of your safety in the CBD Precinct, demonstrate how they would apprehend a criminal. Look out for opportunistic criminals in the CBD and don't wear flashy jewellery and draw attention to yourself.



Blue Ocean
Security Services

The BOSS Security team are our new security partners in the South Beach Precinct. Don't hesitate to call on them for assistance.

YOUR HOLIDAY SAFETY GUIDE

Your safety is our priority all year-round and particularly so this festive season. Here are some great tips to keep you safe:

- Always maintain a common sense approach when walking or driving. Have a plan. Know what you will do if a dangerous situation comes up. Stay calm and don't panic.
- If you think you are being followed, drive or walk to the nearest police station or any open business. Don't go home.

- Have your house keys ready before you reach your front door. A strip of adhesive tape around the top of your house key will make it easy to find, even in the dark.
- Good lighting around your garage and front entry is always a good security measure.
- If an intruder wants to steal something, let him. Silence is golden.
- Plan your trip and give the itinerary with emergency phone numbers to a trusted friend or neighbour
- Use timers for interior lights and radios. Make your house look "lived in".

- Use well-travelled roads; avoid shortcuts and late night driving.
- Shoplifters are of every age, sex, and race. Some of your regular customers could be stealing a little each time they shop. Be vigilant.
- If you are bumped or distracted by a stranger, be aware that a pickpocket may be targeting you.

Stay Alert! **If you are a victim or witness of a crime**, report it immediately to the police. Have all your personal details readily available, as well as the details of the crime or incident.

Important Contact Numbers

SAPS 10111 (24 Hours) | Metro Police Services 031 361 0000 (24 Hours) | UIP SB Precinct: Security 079 640 8708 | Cleaning 083 303 4697
SB Liaison Officer 074 432 1759 | UIP CBD Precinct: Security 031 304 9911/082 852 1204 Cleaning 073 346 7791 | UIP NEB Precinct: Security 031 304 9911/082 852 1204

2209 Embassy Building
199 Anton Lembede (Smith)
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WEB: www.uipco.co.za
E-MAIL: uipco@mweb.co.za

MEET THE **NEW** UIP MANAGEMENT TEAM

A MESSAGE FROM THE NEW CHAIRMAN: Ebrahim Vadachia



Ladies and gentlemen, it is indeed with a deep sense of responsibility and humility that I accept your nomination to serve as Chairman of the UIP and I would like to express my sincere thanks to the former Chairman and the Board of Directors for their support and for the trust that they have placed in me. So, at this beginning, let me make a personal pledge to you that in this role, I will each day, bring a commitment to integrity, reliability, independence and accountability. As your Chairman, it is my duty to persistently stand up for, fight for and advocate for the rebuilding of our communities and the rejuvenation of our once beautiful city. In accepting your nomination today, I place myself at your service as we strive, together with our members, to epitomize the UIP motto of "making life better ... together" for all our people who still love, care for and are passionate about our city.

As a property or business owner, resident or member of the community in the City of Durban, you are no doubt aware of the problems in our city. The rampant incidence of crime and grime, including unregulated informal trading, drunkenness and substance abuse stoked by unchecked liquor outlets and drug peddlers; coupled with prostitution, vagrancy, street children, aggressive beggars, menacing taxis, insolent car guards et al, is now the new normal in our city that degenerates further with each passing day. Furthermore, the callous disregard for law and order; the apparent inability and the perceived lack of will on the part of the authorities to enforce the law, serve only to hasten the general urban decay and the steady degradation of our city, making it a living hell for both visitors and citizens alike. These problems are of grave concern and need to be effectively addressed to prevent the situation from reaching a point of no return. It has been said that "no one can hurt you without your permission" and, the only reason why this outrageous situation persists is simply because we, as law abiding citizens, allow it to fester. So, if the "new normal" that I just described is hurting and you don't like the depths to which Durban has sunk, I urge you to do what's right to change this serious situation for the better, before it destroys all that you love, cherish and hold dear.

As your Chairman, my primary objective is to make the UIP more effective and expand its footprint through cooperation and engagement with all stakeholders from grass roots up to municipal and government level. With the UIP team you are never alone; our unity is our strength so fear not, because as law abiding citizens, we hold the moral high ground. Join the UIP now and together, let us be the change we want to see. Come; grow with us to help Durban realise her greatest possibilities. For more information, call the UIP today on 031 337 1411 or visit www.uipco.co.za and together, let's rejuvenate our city and make life better for all her stakeholders.

On behalf of the UIP Board and its members, allow me to wish all of you everything of the very best for this festive season. Stand tall, take good care of yourself and may God bless and be with you forever and always. Thank you once again.

Sincerely
Ebrahim Vadachia

Bio: Ebrahim began his career in the motor Industry before joining his wife to establish Avoca Travels in 1980 where he currently holds the position of Group Managing Director. Ebrahim is well-travelled and also serves as Chairman of a Body Corporate and acts as a trustee on the boards of various community, religious and charitable organisations. He joined the UIP Board as a Director in late 2014 and was subsequently elected to, and still holds, the position of chairman of the South Beach Precinct. In September 2015 he was unanimously elected Chairman of the UIP Board.



Attendees at the UIP Directors Annual General Meeting on 29 September 2015.

OUTGOING CHAIRMAN: Denis Cockhead



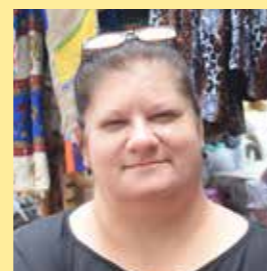
A special thank you to Denis Cockhead, who served on the UIP Board for the past eight years. Denis has steered the Board with much vigour and enthusiasm, and was instrumental in achieving many milestones over the years. We wish him all the best in his retirement. "It was a real honour to be part of a team that is so passionate about Durban. I am confident that the UIP will continue to make a difference in your area, and urge you to support them and their efforts", said Denis.

NEW RECRUITS



Ingrid Lewis: Administrative Assistant

Ingrid joined the team as Administrative Assistant on 1 October and will provide valuable administrative support to the General Manager with the daily running of the office. Ingrid moved to Durban three years ago, after spending over 30 years in Johannesburg, working mainly in sales. "Once you move to Durban, there's no going back. I simply love it here. To be given this opportunity to work and make a difference in the city is an added bonus, and I am eager to get involved." Ingrid is a hands-on go getter and will not be office bound, but will be doing regular walkabouts in the city to identify and fix problems. She is an avid gardener, who loves reading and spending time with her family.



Yvonne Badenhorst: South Beach Liaison Officer

Yvonne is a born and bred Durbanite and has lived on South Beach for most of her life. This is why she is the perfect fit for her new job as Liaison Officer. A familiar face to residents and businesses, Yvonne has been involved in crime fighting for over 27 years. As Security Manager for uShaka Marine World; part of the hospitality security for many years and a member of the Community Policing Forum, Yvonne is as close to crime as it gets. She will act as your go to person on the beachfront and will provide support to the security and cleaning teams on the SB precinct. "I have my ear to the ground and through our various Whatsapp groups, we are able to stay in touch and tackle crime as it happens", said Yvonne.



Amar Hurjan – Vice Chairman

Amar Hurjan has been in the hotel industry for over 46 years, and recently retired as General Manager of the South Beach Garden Court. He has returned to his passion and is now employed by Coastlands Hotel and Resort Group as General Manager. He started his career as an accountant, quickly moving up the ranks to his current position. He is also involved in a few business initiatives with his wife as his business partner. Amar is passionate about charity work and is actively involved with various community upliftment programmes. He was involved with the UIP for a number of years before joining the Board as a Director and now as Vice Chairman.



Okkie Brits - Executive Director

Okkie was General Manager of City Lodge Durban for the past seven years. He also held various positions at different hotels across the country within the City Lodge Group. He is currently General Manager of City Lodge, Umhlanga Ridge. Okkie has been involved with the Hospitality industry for 14 years and joined the UIP Board in 2008. He is also the Chairman of the UIPs' North East Business Precinct committee.



Etienne Erlank – Executive Director

Etienne Erlank served as a diplomat for 12 years in Switzerland, Taiwan, Brazil and Australia responsible for security and political and economic issues. He was also appointed Risk Manager for the FIFA World Cup in 2010. Passionate about safety and security, he currently heads the risk portfolio at ICC. He holds a BA degree in Social Sciences and has various other management qualifications under his belt. He joined the UIP Board in 2014 and chairs the Venue Operation Centre (VOC), where the safety and security of events in and around Durban are discussed with the Intelligence/Security community.



Nicolene Brennan – Executive Director

Nicolene has been the General Manager of Durban Spa for the past five years. Before this she held numerous managerial positions at different organisations in Durban. She worked for Bidvest Prestige for eight years prior to joining Durban Spa. The Bidvest Group by means of business acquisition bought over the Trafalgar Property Services portfolio, of which she was the appointed Regional Manager for Trafalgar Services. Nicolene is very passionate about the success of the South Beach precinct and making it a destination of choice for all tourists.



Wayne Smith – Executive Director

Wayne joined the then Southern Sun, now Tsogo Sun in 1998 and has been with the company for the past 18 years. Starting at Drakensberg Sun, he then moved on to Southern North Beach, Southern Sun, the Cullinan in Cape Town and Umhlanga Sands in various management and operational roles. Wayne was then promoted to General Manager at Garden Court Blackrock in Newcastle where he worked for three years before moving to Garden Court South Beach as General Manager in November 2014.



Colin Burnett - General Manager

Initially starting his career in the field of administration, Colin pursued career paths in marketing, retailing, sales, as well as owning a restaurant/pub, before getting involved in property management and a real estate agency for 10 years. He joined the Urban Improvement Precincts Company in November 2007, and has been General Manager for the past 8 years.



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CRIME AND CLEANING ROUND-UP

The UIP Board and Management would like to thank its service providers and partners for their hard work and commitment to the work of the UIP throughout the year.

CRIME REPORTS: JAN-OCT 2015

CBD Precinct/SRA: Enforce Security Services

For the year to date (Jan-Oct), the UIP/Enforce team handled 1 072 incidents, made a whopping 109 arrests, and assisted with a further 10. March recorded the highest incident rate of 163 and June the lowest with 66. There were no incidents of rape and hijacking handled by the UIP, however there were 2 cases of indecent assault, 2 cases of armed robbery, and 2 cases of robbery with other weapons. There were 4 incidents of assault to cause grievous bodily harm, and 11 cases of petty fighting. Theft is ongoing in this precinct, with 21 incidents of cell phone theft, 19 pickpocketing and 27 snatching incidences. Shoplifting dropped from last year to 12 incidents.

There were no incidents of motor vehicle theft reported, however 4 attempted motor vehicle thefts and 12 theft out of motor vehicle incidents occurred. Suspicious persons loitering without purpose was common in this precinct, with 129 such persons. The value of the crime monitors is evident in the number of call outs (27) made to shops. There were 14 drug and gambling incidents and the crime monitors attended to 628 general requests. The majority of it included assistance at motor accidents, marches, etc. Well done to the team who assisted 99 people from the public.

NEB Precinct/SRA: Enforce Security Services

Despite being a small precinct, the UIP/Enforce crime monitors handled 1 454 incidents over 10 months, the majority of which included support to Metro police in crime prevention in and around the precinct. Fifteen (15) arrests were made from Jan-Oct 2015. Other minor incidents included death (1), indecency (1), cellphone theft (1), pickpocketing (1), suspicious vehicle (1) and theft out of motor vehicle (2). As expected in this precinct, drug offences (12) and suspicious persons (12) were the highest. The team assisted 9 people from the public.

SB Precinct/SRA: Blue Ocean Security Services

New security team, Blue Ocean Security Services

(BOSS) took charge of security in the South Beach precinct from 1 April 2015. The highly experienced team has seen a massive improvement in the precinct, with growing confidence by residents living in the area. BOSS has transformed into one of South Africa's most efficient security companies through its commitment and service excellence.

A close working relationship between the South Beach Liaison Officer and BOSS employees ensures regular communication and effective action is taken to overcome the many problems associated with the South Beach.

CLEANING REPORTS JAN-OCT 2015

CBD Precinct/SRA: Cwebezela Trust



As the team wrap up the year in preparation for a bumper festive season, it is important to reflect on the many cleaning challenges in the 2015 year. Dominating this list is the refuse left behind from illegal traders and

the cleaning nightmare that it has caused throughout the year. Boxes, plastic bags, vegetable residue strewn on the pavement and streets is a never-ending saga, as illegal traders continue to ply their trade with no fear. The Cwebezela team are hopeful that the Metro Police Services will put steps in place for 2016 to alleviate this problem. A further problem is the Telkom telephone banks that still remain a year after Telkom promised to remove them. These are now being used as urinals. The regular maintenance of the pissoires is critical with the lack of adequate toilet facilities in the city. DSW is urged to increase collection times and to arrange alternate collection points for cardboard collectors in the city.

The team continue to work two shifts from 7am-5pm from Mondays to Saturdays and on Sundays and Public Holidays from 7am-1:30pm. An average of 2 500 bags of refuse is collected monthly in this precinct.

SB Precinct/SRA: Shanela Environmental Management Services

This year has seen a massive increase in waste collection by the team, from 5 099 (32 945kgs) bags in 2014 to 7 066 (38 063kgs) bags in 2015. For the year-to-date, an average of 328 664kgs of waste was uplifted.

Public apathy, the poor usage of bins and general disregard for cleanliness and litter continue to be ongoing challenges in this precinct. The team will increase its personnel on 16 and 26 December 2015 and 1 January 2016 in preparation for the chaotic rush that is expected on the beaches. The UIP urges all visitors to the beaches to be safe and responsible and to use the bins provided.

