

CAMPS BAY CID
Minutes of First Public Meeting
Held at Camps Bay Primary School on 23 August 2023 at 18h00

1. Welcome

Marc Truss (MT) introduced himself as chairperson of the meeting and welcomed everyone. Meeting commenced at 18h14.

2. Steering Committee (SC) and CID Consultants

All Steering Committee members were in attendance, namely Spencer McNally (SM) (Steering Committee chairperson), Jonathan Tillett (JT), Richard Bendel (RB), Gavin Reynolds (GR), Kim Faclier (KF), Theresa Massaglia (TM), Louise Cooke (LC), Shayne Krige (SK).

Martin Steinau (MS) and Muneeb Hendricks (MH), consultants to the steering committee were also in attendance.

3. Opening of meeting

MT opened the meeting and explained briefly who he is, his role as CEO of two of Cape Town's longest established CIDs and his involvement in setting up various CIDs over more than 20 years.

4. CID Presentation

SM presented a slide show which is available on the website www.campsbaycid.org.

5. Q&A's (part 1)

SM answered questions that had been received prior to the meeting. These are also available on the website www.campsbaycid.org.

6. Q&A's (part 2)

6.1. Clem Robertson (Trevor Robertson's son)

He accused the Steering Committee (SC) of being scammers and said that once you are on the hook you won't get off. Many people from the floor boo'ed him and he left the stage.

6.2. Jonathan Hader

Thanked SM and the SC. He asked whether the CID would include Glen Beach and the Bungalows. Wanted to know about the Bakoven camera upgrades. Also wanted to know about the lifespan of cameras.

SM: Clifton CID, which is due to go live shortly, will include Glen Beach and its bungalows. With regards to camera upgrades, details haven't yet been decided. Will be part of tender process.

MH: The lifespan of cameras is between 5 and 10 years. We would plan to upgrade every 5 years.

6.3. Klaus Lockart

What happens if an EFF mayor becomes mayor?

MT: Other CIDs have been through various parties' governments. The CID is apolitical. The City pays the money across to fund the CID. He has not seen any issues in 20 years but we can't predict the future. There have been no glitches or issues in the past.

6.4. Tjaart Erasmus

Commented that he has a property in Vermont and a CID there has had a huge beneficial effect to the neighbourhood and he supports the CID here fully.

6.5. Martin Tucker

In another area where he owns a property, informal structures can't be removed and the CID cleans around the informal structures. The CID can't do anything more.

SM: Firstly, we need Law Enforcement Officers to get there quickly when a structure is busy being erected so that they can remove it before it is too late. While a structure is in the process of being erected, then LEOs can remove it. Speed of response is the key here in order to mitigate more structures being erected.

Secondly, once a structure has been built and cannot be removed, there are humane ways of getting people to move using social upliftment mechanisms. CID staff / service providers will work with homeless people and show them there is a better option through shelters and assist them off the street. They will work with love, kindness and a firm hand. Example was given of how this has been done successfully elsewhere, leading to the dismantling and disbanding of a small informal settlement in the City Bowl, with final result being that the space was cleared and cleaned and still remains free of illegal structures.

6.6. Martin Tucker

Can the CID assist to help combat poaching?

SM: The CID and the City don't have jurisdiction over the sea, but they can help with a faster response and when the poachers get to shore, then we will have more resources to deal with them at that point.

6.7. Andre van Kets

Were 25% overseas respondents? How do we reach the foreigners?

SM: We can use electronic voting. The response from the survey is that overseas property owners are in support. We are working on reaching people one by one.

We are going to send out communication to people to get feedback after this meeting and will be open to consultation.

6.8. Hans Klaus

Once the decision is taken all of us are in. What happens if I sell my house, do I sell my vote as well? Do we get to vote in 5 years' time again?

SM: This is a one-time vote. If you sell before the vote takes place, then the new owner will vote. In 5 years' time, if you are a member of the NPC, then you get to vote on the new budget.

6.9. Colin Kahanowitz

How do you make sure there is a camera in your street that covers the house? I want cameras in my street.

SM: The CID doesn't exist to protect individual properties, its purpose is to protect common spaces. The principle of what you want to do is have the cameras able to see each other so that all areas between them is covered. The experts will ensure the cameras are positioned in the correct spots.

6.10. Chris Marshall

The CID is yet another example of failure of the city. How many votes does a 100 room hotel get?

SM: We're not going to get anywhere debating the effectiveness of the City. CID Management will hold the City to account every day, but we will also supplement the City's services with the extra things we need that they aren't doing or don't have the funds to do.

A 100 room hotel gets 1 vote.

6.11. Unknown person

How easy is the voting process?

SM: It will be very simple. Votes can be cast in writing, or an online option will also be available.

6.12. Bernard Schäfer

Previous failure was volunteers. Why will steering committee do better still as volunteers?

SM: Volunteers burn out when they have to work weekends and evenings, for many years, taking time away from their families and their jobs, with no support and no funding. You can do that for a while, but not for very long before it becomes too much.

The proposed CID Business Plan provides for a full-time management team that will handle all the day-to-day aspects that volunteers have previously had to do for the past 10 years. There is therefore far less chance of volunteer burn-out.

MT: In other CID's we have not experienced burnout of volunteers.

SM: We are using professionals and it has already been effective.

7. Meeting closed at 19h50