

MPTCID CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

By Dr. Bradley Bordiss

I want to thank all of the stakeholders for their involvement in efforts to improve the trading environment in Town Centre, Mitchell's Plain during the year of this review, from the 1st of July 2024 until the 30th of June 2025.

- **Board of Directors of The Mitchell's Plain Town Centre Improvement District**

I am happy to report that in the year under review, the Board of Directors met eight times, as well as at the Annual General Meeting. This was higher than the six times required by law. We had the necessary quorum at every meeting, and I want to particularly thank Alderman Abraham Griesel for his consistent attendance and would also like to thank Solomon Philander, who also attended some meetings. I particularly want to thank the Directors for their contributions to their particular portfolios and, particularly, to Ian van der Merwe for his diligence in supervising the financial aspects of the CID management. I am happy to report that we received a clean audit for our financial statements. I also want to thank the professional team, including PSI and Oracle and, in particular, James Loxton and Zubeir Orrie for their work during the year.

- **Management of the Trading Environment**

The informal trading plan for Town Centre, Mitchell's Plain was implemented in September 2023, and since then 275 out of the total 435 informal trading bays now have legal Tenants signed up and paying their permit fees to the relevant City authorities. Unfortunately, this year has seen a flood of undocumented traders into the Town Centre, which has negatively affected the local traders from the area and the CID Manager is working with the relevant authorities to ensure that these illegal, undocumented traders are removed from the Town Centre. James Loxton liaised with the three informal trading organisations in the Town Centre, as well as the Area Economic Department at the City of Cape Town. By way of example, James has been active in engaging with the informal trading community with "TED Talk"-style discussions in Harmony Square, including question-and-answer sessions. We continue to liaise with the City authorities to ensure that the informal trading bays are properly demarcated and painted out and that the eviction of illegal traders is stepped up.

- **CCTV Monitoring and Surveillance Systems**

Metro Police CCTV monitoring and surveillance systems were completed in August 2024 and are very much integrated with the CID monitoring and surveillance system, which is located adjacent thereto. Once the system was properly implemented, SAPS, Metro Police and law enforcement systems have supplied thirteen officers, two vehicles and radios as part of a permanent deployment to Town Centre.

Security cluster meetings have been held at the CID offices every two weeks (i.e. 26 meetings in the year under review) with SAPS, Metro Police, law enforcement and all private security companies operating in Town Centre, Mitchell's Plain.

As a result of the discussion and strategy around hot-spot crime and the management of the crime-fighting infrastructure, crime-fighting in the year under review has been much improved.

- **Train Services into Town Centre, Mitchell's Plain**

It is with extreme frustration and disappointment that I have to report that, as at the time of writing (Saturday, the 8th of November 2025), the train service into Mitchell's Plain train station has still not been restored. PRASA and the City of Cape Town are to be congratulated for their successful efforts in removing illegal occupiers from the train lines, restoring stolen and damaged train infrastructure, testing the tracks to ensure that they are serviceable and getting us to the point where, by my albeit limited understanding, the trains are now ready to run into Mitchell's Plain station. That said, I simply do not know why the train service has not commenced in Town Centre, Mitchell's Plain, despite the fact that a number of national Tenants are waiting to invest in Town Centre once this train service is restored. In the event that the trains are not restored into Town Centre, Mitchell's Plain, then the CID will be seeking to co-operate with traders, landlords and civil society organisations involved in Town Centre, Mitchell's Plain, to perhaps bring a class action lawsuit against PRASA for its failure to restore the train service, despite the fact that it has now been well over eight years since the last train ran into the Mitchell's Plain Town Centre train station.

To end on a positive note, I am happy to report that, in March 2025, the first vocational education training centre opened in Allegra Lane, Town Centre, Mitchell's Plain, and in September 2025, the first graduation ceremony was held for those completing their vocational training.

The Directors, professional team and security guards serving the Mitchell's Plain Town Centre Improvement District are committed to improving the Town Centre in 2026 and look forward to working with all of the stakeholders in order to do so.