



Your UIP

"Tackling crime and grime in your precinct"

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DURBAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE URBAN IMPROVEMENTS PRECINCTS (RF) NPC

From the General Manager's Desk

2015 has arrived and the city is still buzzing with festive season energy, as we launch into this exciting New Year. Happy New Year to you all!

As we reach the 7th year of Your UIP, we bring you a round-up of the year's crime and cleaning stats, as well as highlights of the festive season. We also feature the 2014 year and our milestones. It is important to celebrate these achievements as we refuel for another great year.

The UIP continues to strive for service excellence, and together with our Chairman, Denis Cockhead, our board members and service providers, we are confident that we will make a difference in your area this year.

Email me on uipco@mweb.co.za, visit our website on www.uipco.co.za or comment on our Facebook page.

Colin



Precinct Meetings February/March 2015

We encourage you to attend these meetings and have a say on how we can improve your area.

Precinct	Feb	Mar	Address	Time
NEB	10	10	City Lodge	2:30 pm
CBD	17	17	Florence Mkhize Building	2:30 pm
SB	12	19	Garden Court	2:30 pm

DID YOU KNOW?
Central business districts remain the most high-risk areas in the country.

Is The Holidays Open Season For Crime?

What is your view? Join our Facebook page and tell us what you think and also stand a chance of winning a R500 shopping voucher. It's that easy!



Violent crimes that South Africans fear most like murder, attempted murder and robbery have increased dramatically over the past two years.

This is the view of writer, Lizette Lancaster who claims that crime, particularly serious crime spikes over the festive season. A review of the monthly national crime data for the five years from April 2006 to March 2011 revealed that murder and serious assault increase by as much as 50% during December each year, while incidents of burglary increased by 8%. (<http://africacheck.org/2014/12/17/analysis-do-crime-levels-spike-in-south-africa-over-the-festive-season/>)

Is this in fact true? Well, the data released on the SAPS website annually seems to point in this direction, however the lack of detailed crime stats, is also a concern as the large gap between the release of crime statistics does not paint a true picture of crime in South Africa. In October 2014, Operation Duty Calls was launched by the SAPS to crack down on crime over the Christmas season.

But the debate rages on. Does crime increase over the festive season?

There are many reasons that this could be the case. Like all of us, criminals love the festive season when people let their guard down, leaving plenty of opportunity for criminals to pounce. Opportunists are everywhere; on the street, in shopping centres, on the beach, in parking lots and even on your property.

The festive season also sees an increase in alcohol consumption and drugs, leading to more domestic squabbles, fighting on the streets and beaches and generally more crime. In addition, many businesses close over the festive season and people leave their homes to go on holiday, putting these areas at high risk during the festive season

The festive season is now over but does this mean that crime will reduce? There is no guarantee of this, but rather for you to continue to be vigilant. Maintain safety rules throughout the year, both in an off season. Other than ensuring your home and business premises have sufficient security, always be alert; have a safety checklist, be smart and do not become a statistic this year.

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2014 Achievements

- ✓ The UIP launched its website and Facebook page.
- ✓ The UIP joined the Point CPF in a march against crime.
- ✓ In our fight against crime, a new list of fines was submitted to the judiciary in the hope that higher fines will deter illegal traders and lead to more prosecutions.
- ✓ A UIP/Enforce crime monitor is now stationed at the CBD CCTV Control Room, where traditionally only Metro Police and SAPS were allowed.

City Milestones

- ✓ **New CCTV Camera Centre opens on North Beach**
- ✓ **City of Durban launches new 'Clean My City Campaign'**

Safety Tips: Transporting Cash

- ✓ Use licensed cash-collection security companies to move and bank large amounts of cash, as opposed to sending out vulnerable, untrained and ill-equipped employees to do what is fundamentally a dangerous job.
- ✓ Keep minimal cash on your premises. If you've been robbed once, don't think that 'lightning doesn't strike the same place twice', after your first robbery you are even more vulnerable than you were before.
- ✓ After business hours, store valuable items that are normally on display in a safe or vault.
- ✓ Use secure containers that disguise what your people are carrying, as opposed to the obvious canvas money bags.
- ✓ Continually vary the routes and times used to move cash from the business to the bank.
(www.fightagainstcrime.co.za)

Important Contact Numbers!

SAPS
10111 (24 Hours)

Metro Police Services
031 361 0000
(24 Hours)

UIP SB Precinct Security
083 548 6225
Cleaning
083 303 4697

UIP CBD Precinct Security
031 304 9911
082 852 1204
Cleaning
073 346 7791

UIP NEB Precinct Security
031 304 9911
082 852 1204



Last year, the eThekweni City Mayor, Cllr James Nxumalo took personal Ownership for the cleanliness of the city when he launched the Clean My City Campaign. The campaign was in response to the many cleaning challenges identified in the city and to encourage residents and visitors alike to take pride in the city and make eThekweni the cleanest and most liveable city by 2030.

How do we measure up? According to many local tourist guides, crime and grime is an unfortunate stigma that has stuck, and although Durban is still a popular destination, its reputation of being a bit grubby has lingered. Crime has not helped either. According to Durban Tourism head, Philip Sithole, more people visit Durban each year - proof that it is not dirty and unsafe.

Durban has also made great strides in the last few years that has certainly contributed to its popularity. "We have about 650 000 international visitors a year, and an average of three million local tourists", according to Durban Tourism. Our tourist attractions, like uShaka Marine World, Moses Mabhida Stadium, King Shaka Airport and the Promenade are tourist magnets. But as a city we have a long way to go in terms of achieving our 2030 target.

As a Durban community, we need to stand united in this pledge and work together to make Durban a cleaner city. Top up services like the UIP, with its service providers Cwebezela Trust in the City and Shanela Environmental Management Services on the South Beach continue to work with the municipality in order to achieve this mission. But, it starts with individuals at home using the bins and spreading this same culture on the streets, public spaces and in your work premises. It is only through discipline that we can make Durban one of the cleanest cities in the world. (www.iol.co.za/travel/south-africa/kwazulu-natal)

Together we make Durban cleaner



UIP/Shanela Environmental Management Services - SB Precinct



UIP/Cwebezela Trust - CBD Precinct

New Year Greetings From Our Service Providers



**Chris Meintjes: UIP Security Manager
(Enforce Security Services)**

My wish for 2015 is that all who visit the Durban CBD will be safe. We at the UIP will do our very best to ensure that criminals do not interfere with visitors to our city. I am pleased to report that 2014 was a good year, with very few serious incidents. Thank you to legal traders who follow the rules, businesses for your confidence when calling us to assist, the public for respecting the city and to my team for their continuous hard work.

I wish you a prosperous New Year and may all of your aspirations for 2015 come true.



**Patrick Mahlangu: Street Manager
(Cwebezela Trust)**

Working the streets in the Durban CBD is a very exciting part of my job. Even though we experience many challenges daily, the relationships we have built with DSW, traders and shop owners makes our jobs so much easier. Thank you to the Cwebezela team for its hard work during the year, and to our ratepayers, we will continue to keep your area clean and tidy.

Wishing you all a wonderful and prosperous 2015!



**Paul Burmeister: Manager (Shanela
Environmental Management)**

We wish the residents of the South Beach UIP area a safe and prosperous 2015 and look forward to being an integral part of the UIP's growth. To visitors who come to enjoy the beach facilities and markets, we ask you to maintain your enthusiasm and note that keeping the area clean is a collective effort. Our ultimate goal is for residents to admire their clean surroundings and for visitors to be impressed with the cleanliness and safety, and keep coming back!

Wishing you all a clean and sparkling 2015!

**Neil van Zyl: Owner/Manager
(Siyabuya Security Services)**

Season's greetings and a Happy New Year to the residents and visitors of the South Beach precinct. A special thank-you for your support in 2014. To visitors who come to enjoy South Beach, please do so by respecting the people and property around you. Our goal for 2015 is to see better public-behaviour, less alcohol abuse, fewer vagrants loitering around and a more safety conscious society.

Together with our partners, the Shanela' cleaners we look forward to serving you in 2015.

Festive Season Report: December 2014

The UIP teams recorded another busy festive season. Below is a synopsis of the activities over December 2014

CBD Precinct (SRA) UIP/Enforce Security Services

The CBD Precinct recorded another bumper year, with shops, restaurants and streets bustling with activity.

The high street congestion, although wonderful for business is usually a breeding ground for opportunists, like pickpockets and shoplifters. Fortunately, this festive season was relatively quiet from a crime perspective, with no major incidences reported.

The UIP Crime Monitors made three (3) arrests and assisted with an additional four (4). December also recorded four (4) incidents of shoplifting, one (1) case of cell phone theft, and two (2) incidences of indecent assault. The team attended to five (5) call-outs to shops, observed seven (7) suspicious persons, assisted six (6) people from the public, attended to 24 incidents of crime prevention at ATMs and removed twine from 26 traders' tables.

The visibility of the crime monitors provided a valuable deterrent and together with Metro Police and SAPS allowed patrons to enjoy the city with peace of mind.

NEB Precinct (SRA) UIP/Enforce Security Services

Traditionally quiet, this precinct was marred with one (1) incident of assault, causing grievous bodily harm. The UIP Crime Monitors assisted Metro Police with 47 miscellaneous crime-prevention incidents.

SB Precinct (SRA) UIP/Siyabuya Security Services

The SB precinct, notorious for party revellers and poor behaviour was no different this festive season with the South Beach Crime Monitors attending to 831 incidents for December alone.

Public disturbance (74 incidents), public indecency (73), fighting (33), assault (5) and assault to cause grievous bodily harm (1) are common occurrences during this time and are strongly related to alcohol abuse.

Illegal activities by car washers (12), car guards (25), vendors (30) and bottle sellers (37) continued to take place in December.

Opportunists are on the prowl at this time and often pounce on unsuspecting people who expose their valuables, particularly cell phones. Nine (9) cellphones were reported stolen, three (3) nearly stolen and seven (7) bags snatched. Fortunately, the team managed to recover five (5) stolen goods. A shocking 17 vehicles were spotted with their windows left open, two (2) with its doors unlocked and one (1) vehicle with the window already broken.



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Fortunately, there were no incidents of stolen vehicles reported to the UIP; however there were three (3) incidents of theft out of motor vehicles and four (4) attempted thefts.

Three children, who went missing, were reunited with their families thanks to the help of our crime monitors, who also assisted 115 visitors/residents during this busy month. Well done to the team.

Yearly Round-Up

CBD PRECINCT/SRA (UIP/Enforce Security Services)

During 2014, the UIP/Enforce team handled 649 crime incidents and assisted with removing twine from 304 traders' stalls, contributing to the aesthetics of the city.

Ninety six (96) arrests were executed and 28 assisted arrests logged. The team helped 49 people from the public and responded to 70 call-outs to shops. In addition, they apprehended 44 shoplifters and pickpockets.

NEB PRECINCT/SRA (UIP/Enforce Security Services)

Other than a few minor incidents of alcohol and drug misuse, this precinct was well managed and well behaved in 2014 with no serious crime reported.

SB PRECINCT/SRA (UIP/Siyabuya Security Services)

The team addressed a whopping 8 802 incidents in 2014 and assisted 1 517 people, which was an amazing accomplishment for the team. Fifteen (15) arrests were made and an additional six (6) with the help of the SAPS. The team remains a valuable watchdog on the beachfront, controlling behaviour and protecting vehicles and property.

Cleaning Reports: 2014

UIP/Shanela Environmental Management Services

The year 2014 proved to be a challenging year for the team, especially during the school and public holidays. The popularity of Durban's beaches increases yearly and litter generation also increases substantially. To help with this, Shanela instituted extra shifts over the festive period, which proved very successful.

During the period January to December 2014, a total of 69 440 bags at an average weight of 382 000kgs of litter was collected. DSW has instituted a regular street washing programme for the precinct and other areas of Durban and we enjoy fantastic support from the team.

Shanela's goals for 2015 are simple. To see the establishment of recycling bins in the area, more educational school tours spearheaded by DSW and to reduce bag usage further.

Encouraging people to be "litter aware" is the greatest challenge. Litter awareness begins at home and we ask all parents who visit the area with their children to be mindful, and as they say make sure your footprints are all you leave behind. This way we will ensure the continued growth of the South Beach UIP area as one of the best places to holiday in South Africa.

UIP/Cwebezela Trust

A defaced city with stickers and pamphlets is a massive challenge for the Cwebezela team.

As colleges reopen, there is also a massive influx of posters strewn throughout the city.

School children dominated the streets and entertainment hubs, but sadly so did litter. There is an urgent need for more bins in the city and for better litter awareness.

The presence of more Cwebezela cleaners during peak periods from Monday to Sunday has helped keep the precinct cleaner. Our relationship with the DSW has strengthened, particularly with the termination of the DSW contractors, Wasteng and Gabiso in 2014, and Cwebezela and Expanded Public Works carrying the extra workload for two months.

Informal traders, vegetable and fruit sellers, food suppliers, mealie sellers, pie-carts, hot-dog carts, street food, meat outlets; supermarkets and grocers discarding out-of-date food; taxi drivers/owners cleaning out vehicles onto pavements, and human waste on passageways have been the teams greatest challenges.

The team continued to clean the two pissoires in the city, 10 times a day. We urge businesses and traders to be more litter wise in 2015.

Upcoming events in the city

Idols SA Season 11 Live Auditions

Playhouse Opera Theatre - 21 February 2015

KZN Philharmonic Orchestra: Summer

Season - Durban City Hall (Every Thursday) - Start 7 March

NWJ Bridal Fair - Durban Central - 7-8 March

Decorex Durban - Durban Exhibition Centre - 19-22 March