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report on CBD economy

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Why the office
is here to stay

CityViews

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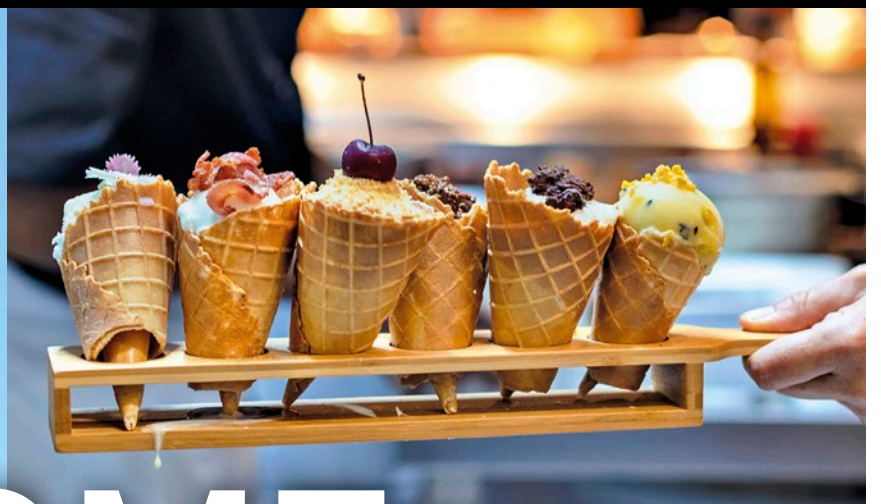
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YOUR FREE CAPE TOWN CENTRAL CITY NEWSPAPER

Brought to you by the Cape Town Central City Improvement District (CCID)

Spring 2020

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082 415 7127

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SAFE, CLEAN, CARING AND OPEN FOR BUSINESS



TALK OF THE TOWN

CityViews

IS A FREE CAPE TOWN CENTRAL CITY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED BY THE CAPE TOWN CENTRAL CITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (CCID), A NON-PROFIT COMPANY. IT IS THE CCID'S VISION TO ENSURE THAT THE CENTRAL CITY IS SAFE, CLEAN, CARING AND OPEN FOR BUSINESS FOR ALL WHO USE IT, WHETHER THEY LIVE, WORK OR PLAY HERE, OR ARE PASSING THROUGH.

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WELCOME BACK TO TOWN

TASSO EVANGELINOS
CEO OF THE CCID

Welcome back to town! We've missed you, and are delighted to reintroduce you to the many different aspects that make the Cape Town CBD the most successful in South Africa.

Looking at where we are now and thinking back to the status quo over the last three months, when the various stages of the nationwide lockdown in response to Covid-19 basically shut down our CBD, I am reminded of these words by Rob Kane, the chairperson of the CCID: "Resilience is far more than a buzzword in the Cape Town CBD."

We are robust and rising like a phoenix from the ashes. A testament to this is the opening up of retail businesses, including galleries and cultural institutions, and the return of events including the popular First Thursdays initiative, which contributes significantly to the Central City's night-time economy.

I invite you to come back to town

to soak up what you've been missing during these past months. All businesses in the Central City have Covid-19 safety protocols in place, and we urge members of the public to mask-up and behave responsibly as we continue to fight the pandemic.

In this issue, we highlight exciting activities to enjoy in the CBD, the myriad venues offering entertainment and events (pages 3 and 8) and the joy of becoming a tourist in your own city. On pages 4 and 5, Laura Robinson, director of the Cape Town Heritage Trust and a CCID board member, lists her favourite places and spaces in the Central City, and tells us why she thinks they're special.

While the CBD is unique, it is not only a "play" destination. It's a great place to work, do business and live. On page 6, we bring you the fascinating results of our annual Residential Survey, which we

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We want to hear from you. Share your feedback by emailing simangele@capetownccid.org

conducted to help us understand our downtown residential community.

On page 7, we build a case for the future of the office. While working remotely has many benefits, we believe that there are advantages to working as a team in a designated work space. To this end, it's great to see organisations like Wesgro encouraging other companies in the city centre to come back to the office with their #Back2OfficeSafely campaign. As Wesgro CEO Tim Harris says, why work from home when you can work from the Cape Town CBD?

CCID PUTS SANITISING SQUAD TO WORK



CCID'S SANITISING AMBASSADOR TEAM WITH CARLISLE MARANKE, PRECINCT MANAGER AND KALLY BENITO, ASSISTANT MANAGER FOR CCID URBAN MANAGEMENT

They've been hard at work for months, disinfecting the public spaces of the CBD to help fight the spread of Covid-19. Meet the CCID's Sanitising Squad.

If there's something strange in your neighbourhood, and it don't look too good, who you gonna call? Ghostbusters! Or should we say, the CCID's Sanitising Squad made up of Wylan Scholtz, Blake Bester, Lucky Mangezi and Peter Kaira.

Akin to the "ghostbusters" in the Hollywood movie, but responsible for a real and serious mission, the CCID's four-man team walks across town daily tasked with deep-cleaning all high-touch surfaces. From pedestrian buttons to railings, benches, bollard tops, the top part of electrical boxes, and lids of green street-pole refuse bins, they clean them all.

Since they first appeared in July, clad in signature green overalls and armed with pressure-sprayer backpacks and squirt bottles, they have used about 1 000 litres of 70 % + alcohol-based sanitiser.

That's equivalent to about 4 226 cups of water. The amount is less surprising when you consider that the cleaning takes place from 08h00 till 17h00.

The sanitising squad falls under the CCID's Urban Management department, whose job is to keep the CBD clean and reduce health and safety risks, especially now with Covid-19 in the mix. When there's inclement weather, the squad joins Urban Management's other teams to gain additional skills in keeping the CBD pristine.

The great news is that the team will be around sanitising the CBD until December following the "positive energy" from the public, says CCID CEO Tasso Evangelinos. Thereafter, the project will be evaluated.

Evangelinos is confident "it has the legs to carry on". He adds that these innovative measures prove that the Cape Town CBD is open for business. "We believe they will go a long way in restoring the confidence of businesses, residents, visitors and people who work in the CBD."

SINCE WE PUBLISHED THE LAST ISSUE OF CITY VIEWS

SAFETY & SECURITY



Conducted **6 945** crime prevention initiatives and issued **2 033** warnings

Arrests made with City Law Enforcement **56**

Illegal trading offences dealt with **4**

Rendered public & vehicle assistance **153** times

Medical & rescue callouts responded to **24**

Incidents of illegal dumping addressed **8**

Traffic wardens issued **868** fines to a total of **R634 200**

Interventions by Aggressive Begging Team **4 138**

Conducted **23 499** checks on **788** buildings

Tourism Monitors warned **614** people for not complying with Lockdown rules, informed **3 070** people about wearing masks, identified **443** cases of suspicious activity, rendered public assistance **3 633** times and assisted **3 858** people with social distancing

Chrysalis Academy student ambassadors working in the Company's Garden assisted the public **5 711** times, warned **1 410** people for not complying with Lockdown rules, informed **3 913** people about wearing masks, assisted **7 488** people with social distancing and identified **328** incidents of suspicious activity

COMMUNICATIONS



Generated **136** media clips to an advertising value equivalent (AVE) of **R3 475 413** reaching an audience of **162 160 316**

Wrote **354** Facebook posts on the CCID's **3 Facebook pages**

Boosted **8** Facebook posts which reached **142 300** people

Produced **3** e-Newsletters which each reached **5 100** subscribers

Distributed **1** Newsflash to **1 450** stakeholders

Wrote and produced the *State of Cape Town Central City Report 2019 – A year in review* economic publication

URBAN MANAGEMENT



Removed **253** illegal posters

Removed **370** strings & stickers

Removed **499** incidents of graffiti

Removed **122.5 kg** of butts from ciggie bins

Cleaned **2 701** municipal drains

Undertook **162** road maintenance repairs

Maintained **581** tree wells

Cleaned **773** storm water drains and removed **6 776 kg** of waste

Removed **190.86 tonnes** of litter and waste

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



Interacted with **384** people living on the streets

Placed **73** adults in shelters in the CBD

Assisted **31** adults to get back home
Assisted **12** adults to healthcare facilities

Conducted **3** interventions with children
Referred **36** clients to TB HIV Care, Straatwerk and Streetscapes

Assisted **2** mothers with babies
Visited **13** hotspots (where groups of the homeless gather)

Referred **96** people to NGOs for general services and **26** people to the Winter Readiness Programme

Received donations from **Southern Sun Waterfront**, **Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel** and **Investec** for various partner NGOs

STAKEHOLDER NEWS

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Central City retailers are keen to welcome back patrons as Lockdown moves to Level 1. Here’s a selection of what’s on offer.



ROOK CYCLES

For more Central City news and views, subscribe to the CCID's e-Newsletter. Go to www.capetownccid.org and enter your email address at the bottom of the homepage.

PLAY

► Rook Cycles

Rook Cycles' bike rental service is back and we can't think of a better way to explore the CBD than by bike! They have also reintroduced their popular weekly Thursday Night Ride Club. To rent a bike costs between R150 and R300.

295 Long St
060 464 0623
www.rookcycles.com

EAT

► ÉSO Juice Company

Summer's coming, folks! Pop in to ÉSO Juice Company, a new smoothie and juice bar (located inside Mad Macs Motorcycles City Centre), for a healthy treat.

4 Long St
063 217 4596

SHOP

► Mop Hair

Buying into the living lightly trend is eco-conscious Central City hair salon, Mop Hair. The salon's hair dressers specialise in colouring hair and Balayage.

127 Bree St
021 424 5299
www.mophair.co.za



Q&A WITH PIETER BLOEM, FOUNDED DIRECTOR OF BOOTLEGGER COFFEE COMPANY

What prompted your move to the Central City?

We had to close our Sandton store in Johannesburg, which left us with equipment and furniture, and enabled us to take on a venture like this. It's wonderful to be able to turn something negative into something positive. The response has been good, and we're happy to be part of the Bree Street community.

Tell us more about Bootlegger on Bree?

Bootlegger Bree Street has a trendy, come-and-go feel to it. We love the

fact that it's accessible and central. The "hatch" window on the one side creates a cool conversational and "just passing by" feel to an otherwise sit-down restaurant. It's the best of both worlds, really.

What do you make of our downtown?

It's fabulous. As soon as you step into the shadows of the fever trees in Bree Street, you feel like a tourist. This is confirmed when you look up and see one of the seven wonders of the world, Table Mountain.

185 Bree St | www.bootlegger.co.za

CCID LAUNCHES ECONOMIC REPORT ON CENTRAL CITY

It's here! The eighth edition of the *State of Cape Town Central City Report 2019 – A year in review*, the CCID's annual investment guide that details the CBD's economy last year, has just been published.

Resilience is one of the key themes of the latest *State of Cape Town Central City Report 2019 – A year in review*. Despite a tight economy, the consequences of the devastating 2018 drought and ongoing load-shedding, Cape Town - and its Central City - held its own economically in 2019, with the city receiving countless accolades and awards and a strong vote of confidence from investors, businesses and leisure visitors and residents.

While Rob Kane, CEO of Boxwood Property Fund and CCID chairperson,

confirmed that 2019 had been incredibly difficult due to the tough economic climate, the city held its own, which is reflected in the value of Central City property, as well as the total value of property investments (completed, planned, proposed or under construction) in the CBD during the year under review.

The report reflects on the big picture of the economy of the Central City. It analyses retail trends, commercial and residential property trends, occupancy and vacancy rates, and highlights the performance of key Central City economies. In the year under review, the art economy was a driver of economic growth following Cape Town's emergence as Africa's art capital, as well as the knowledge and eventing economy. The report also includes an investigation into the night-time economy and details the findings of two dipstick surveys conducted by the CCID (on First Thursdays and why residents love living in the Central City).

While the focus is 2019, the report also reflects on the impact of Covid-19 on the CBD's economy and how the disaster has also inspired innovation.



To receive the *State of Cape Town Central City Report 2019 - A year in review*, email aziza@capetownccid.org.

You can also access the report online at: www.capetownccid.org/about-ccid/publications/The-State-of-Cape-Town-Central-City-Report/61

USEFUL CONTACTS

EMERGENCY

CCID 24-HOUR SAFETY & SECURITY



082 415 7127
(Cape Town CBD only)

AMBULANCE, HEALTH, NOISE & FIRE

107 / 021 480 7700
(24 hours)

107 from landlines only

SAPS CENTRAL CITY

021 467 8001/2
(24 hours)

CITY OF CAPE TOWN SERVICES

INCIDENT REPORTING & ENQUIRIES

- Refuse collection, water issues, street lights and electricity faults
0860 103 089
- Traffic signal faults
0860 001 948
- Prepaid electricity meters
0800 220 440
- Cable theft
0800 222 771
- Disaster Risk Management
080 911 4357
021 597 6000 (24 hours)

SOCIAL CONCERNS

- Alcohol & Drug Helpline
0800 435 748
- Social Development: Children
0800 220 250
- Social Development: Adults
0800 872 201
- CCID Social Department
082 563 4289

BYLAW & TRAFFIC INFRINGEMENTS

- Law Enforcement
021 596 1999 (24 hours)
- Traffic Police
0860 765 423
- Metro Police
0860 765 423

COME BACK TO TOWN

TALK OF THE TOWN

Laura Robinson directs the all-important work of the Cape Town Heritage Trust from an idyllic cottage on the edge of the Company's Garden in the heart of the Central City. Here she divulges her 10 favourite urban spaces and places, all must-visit CBD destinations.



LAURA ROBINSON, DIRECTOR OF THE CAPE TOWN HERITAGE TRUST

01 THE COMPANY'S GARDEN

I love the Company's Garden, especially the view of the lawns and the fishpond from the terrace of the Visitors' Centre, the headquarters of the Cape Town Heritage Trust, where I am based. It's a privilege to work in this green lung of downtown Cape Town, and to be able to enjoy this national treasure every day.

**Company's Garden,
Government Ave**

03 DELUXE COFFEEWORKS

It's like a hole in the wall, and you'll walk right passed it quite easily, but Deluxe Coffeeworks is my favourite coffee shop in the Central City. It is the original Deluxe Coffeeworks. I love their flat whites, and I also go there for the retro music, which hits all the right notes.

**Deluxe Coffeeworks,
25 Church St,
076 832 6208**

04 THE DRINKERY

With its eclectic furniture and artworks, The Drinkery on the Mezzanine level at Heritage Square is one of my favourite places to go for an after-work drink. I love this atmospheric contemporary bar that is known for its splendid cocktails. I often meet friends here for a glass of champagne or a gin martini.

**The Drinkery, 100 Shortmarket St,
071 191 5034**

05 CAPE TOWN CITY HALL

The concert hall of the Cape Town City Hall, which was recently restored, is simply magnificent. I can't wait for it to open again, and to hear the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra in concert. I am a regular, I attend most of the orchestra's Thursday evening concerts. The City Hall, an iconic Edwardian building in Cape Town that was built in 1905, is very special.

**City Hall,
Darling St**

02 THE HERITAGE SHOP

The Heritage Shop in the Company's Garden is one of the Cape Town Heritage Trust's initiatives. We sell a range of ethically produced products all inspired by the Cape's cultural and natural heritage, including homeware, cards, prints and publications. Visitors can also experience the Cape's botanical heritage through the Cape Fynbos Tasting, where flavours of this ancient vegetation are explored in the form of tea, infusions, oils, vinegars, cordials, salts and digestives.

**The Heritage Shop,
Company's Garden,
021 426 2157**

* The Cape Town Heritage Trust is an independent, private NPO set up to conserve the natural, cultural and architectural heritage of Cape Town and its environs. It welcomes donations to continue its work.



DISTRICT SIX MUSEUM

06 DISTRICT SIX MUSEUM

Another special cultural institution, and a must for visitors to Cape Town and the Central City, is the District Six Museum. The stories told here are incredible, as are the displays. The current permanent exhibition, Digging Deeper, was launched 20 years ago and documents myriad aspects of the lives of the people of District Six. It is a rich and moving visual experience.

**15 & 25A Buitenkant St,
021 466 7200**

* Please consider supporting this Cape Town institution which is struggling financially due to previously enforced Lockdown restrictions. The museum covers its operational costs through income generated by visitors. You can help by donating R110 (the value of a guided visit) or making a monthly donation of R50 (the cost of an entrance fee). Once-off donations are also welcome.



CAPE TOWN CITY HALL



THE COMPANY'S GARDEN



07 KIRSTEN GOSS & MISSIBABA

I love the top end of Bree Street. It is very walkable and has a nice scale. These two retail venues, which celebrate local design and female entrepreneurship, are housed in one building. Close by is Skinny laMinx, which is a home décor shop cut from the same cloth. I love supporting women business owners and Kirsten Goss, Chloe Townsend (Missibaba) and Heather Moore (Skinny laMinx) certainly fit the bill.

Kirsten Goss (021 424 3453) & Missibaba (021 447 2045), 229 Bree St; Skinny laMinx, 201 Bree St, 021 424 6290

08 EARTH FAIR FOOD MARKET

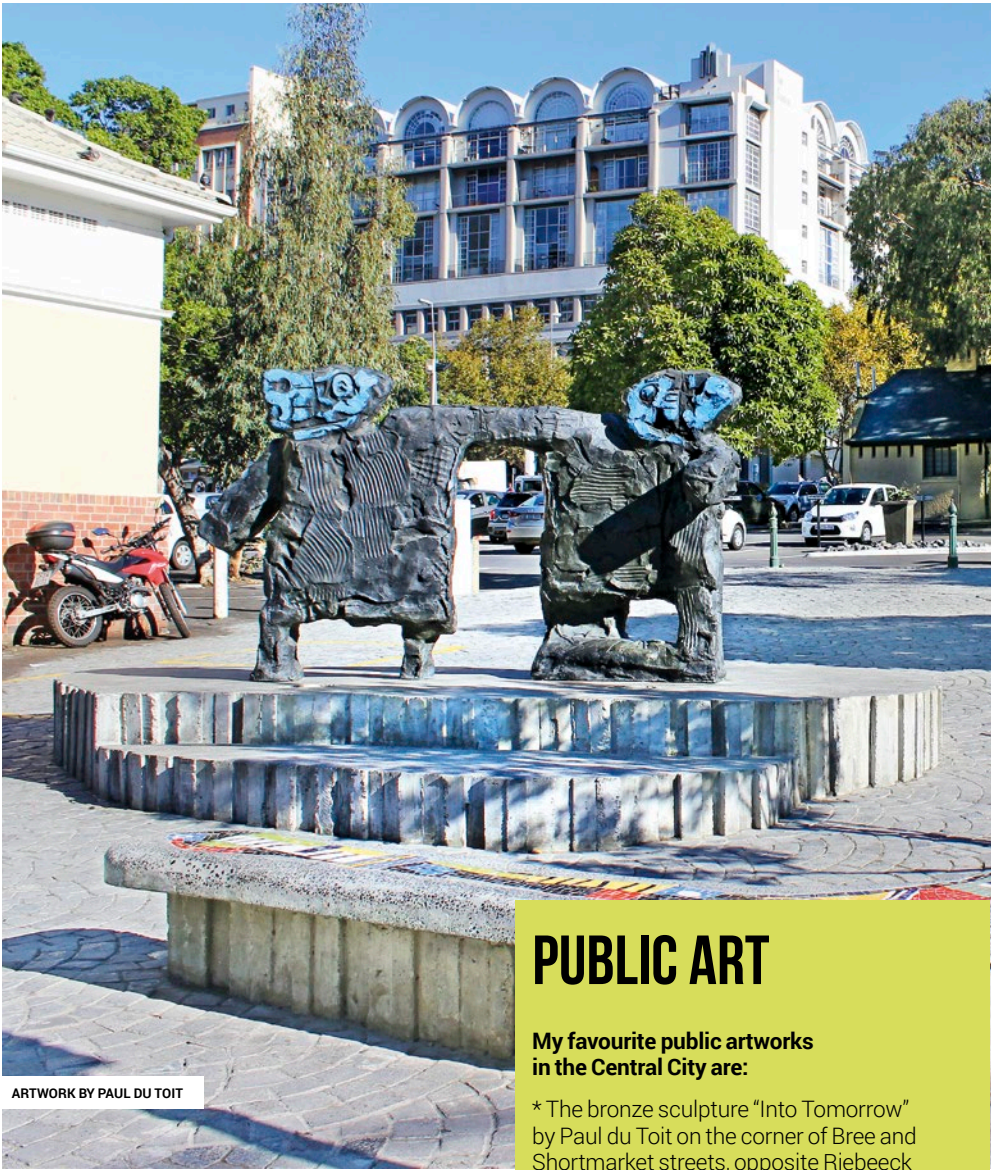
Now called the St George's Food Market, it's lovely to see the food market in St George's Mall starting up again. I love the way owner Jacqui Simpson has turned this into a thriving concern, addressing people's need to eat ethically sourced culinary delights. There is such an interesting array of traders and it makes the mall come alive every Thursday.

St George's Food Market, every Thursday from 11h00 to 15h00

09 MUTUAL HEIGHTS

As an architect by training, I appreciate the Mutual Building with its extraordinary, renowned art deco features and design. It is quite glorious. When you look up and see the triangular windows and the bas-reliefs ... it is very impressive. It opened in 1940 as the offices of Old Mutual (then South African Mutual Life Assurance Society) but is now a residential building.

Mutual Heights, 14 Darling St



ARTWORK BY PAUL DU TOIT

10 DORRANCE WINES

Owned by Christophe and Sabrina Durand, this urban winery is housed in Heritage Square, which is steeped in history. The Cape Town Heritage Trust restored Heritage Square in the 1990s. The Heritage Hotel is home to the oldest fruit-bearing vine in the country, which grows in the hotel's courtyard. It is therefore apt to have a winery here! Dorrance produces wines in the French tradition. The wine cellar and tasting room need to be experienced.

Dorrance Wines, 95 Hout St, 021 422 0695

PUBLIC ART

My favourite public artworks in the Central City are:

- * The bronze sculpture "Into Tomorrow" by Paul du Toit on the corner of Bree and Shortmarket streets, opposite Riebeeck Square;
- * The three enormous cut-out panels in the main foyer of the Cape Town International Convention Centre 1 building. They are called "Baobabs, Stormclouds, Animals and People" and are a collaboration by Brett Murray and TuiStefaansSamcuia;
- * The ghost shark sculptures by Ralph Borland that swim three metres above the ground on Jetty Square on the Foreshore. The land was reclaimed from the sea. The Cape Town Heritage Trust has developed a new heritage route, The Original Shoreline, that traces the city's original shoreline from the Castle of Good Hope to the V&A Waterfront. We have uncovered stories about the people and places that shaped our history.



EARTH FAIR FOOD MARKET

URBAN PLACEMAKING

LIVING IN THE CENTRAL CITY

Thousands of people live in the heart of the vibrant Cape Town Central City. Every year we ask them why they love it and what makes the downtown lifestyle so appealing. Here are the results of our 2019 dipstick survey which generated 411 responses.



PROFILE OF RESIDENTS

Nearly **40 %** of current residents have lived in the Central City for three years or less, possibly moving into one of the many new property developments offering an attractive "live, play, work and fun" lifestyle.

The vast majority – **54.9 %** – are owner-occupiers, while just over a third (**34.8 %**) rent the accommodation. Owners who rent out their properties amount to **10.2 %**. Most of these – **66.7 %** – are short-term rentals.

Nearly **40 % (37.7 %)** of respondents are South African, originally from outside the Western Cape; **30.5 %** are Capetonians while **22.3 %** of Central City residents are from overseas.

Nearly a third (**32.3 %**) of respondents are "middle-aged" (between 35-44 years), while a further **25.5 %** are between the ages of 25-34 years. Just under **7 %** of all respondents are retirees.

Unsurprisingly, the vast majority (**68.8 %**) of CCID residents do not have children.

OWNER-OCCUPIERS

54.9%



RENT ACCOMMODATION

34.8%



WHY LIVE IN THE CENTRAL CITY?

When asked why they decided to live in the CBD, most respondents (**61.6 %**) like the "downtown lifestyle" followed by "proximity to work" (**56.2 %**). Almost half the respondents (**47 %**) live within 1 km of their place of work or study and like access to "great restaurants" (**52.1 %**).

LIFESTYLE

61.6%

56.2%

PROXIMITY TO WORK

THE HAPPINESS FACTOR

The majority (**69.3 %**) of respondents are "satisfied" or "very happy" to be living in the Central City.

69.3%



SAFETY

The number of respondents who **feel it's safer in the Central City** than in the suburbs of Cape Town.

55.3%

OCCUPATION

While respondents report a wide range of occupations, the most popular are:

MEDIA & MARKETING

13.9%

CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

8.8%

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

51.1%

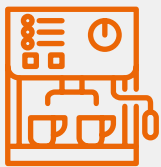
SELF-EMPLOYED & FREELANCE

31.8%



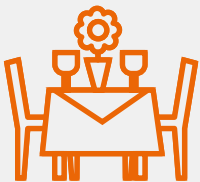
FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD

The sluggish economy appears to be taking its toll, with the percentage of respondents visiting a coffee shop at least once a week declining from **82 %** in 2018 to **77 %** in 2019. Similarly the percentage of respondents who eat out at least weekly has declined from **73 %** in 2017 to **69 %** in 2018 and just **59 %** in 2019.



77%

VISIT A COFFEE SHOP



59%

EAT OUT WEEKLY

When asked where they go when they eat out, respondents living the Central City indicate they eat at restaurants within the City Bowl (**71.7 %**) and the city centre (**60.4 %**) – with the V&A Waterfront a distant third (**45.3 %**).

There is a marked shift in the percentage of residents visiting takeaway outlets – which fell from **57 %** in 2018 to just **40 %** in 2019. This could be due to the tight economy or reflects the impact of online food apps, with **66.7 %** of respondents indicating that they order food online.

MOBILITY

A third of respondents (**36.8 %**) get around by car, while **34 %** walk. There was a marginal decline in reported car usage since the previous survey, which might reflect the use of ride-hailing apps such as Uber (**8 %**) and that a growing number of residents (**5 %**) work from home.

UBER

8%

WALK

34%

CAR

36.8%

MOST POPULAR PUBLIC SPACE

The Company's Garden was a clear winner with **76.2 %** of respondents still enjoying spending time in the Central City's green lung, with St Georges Mall finding favour with **30.2 %** of respondents and Greenmarket Square being favoured by **23.3 %**.

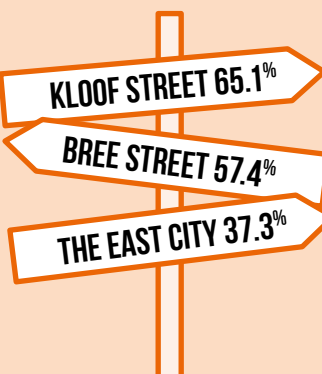
These three popular public spaces remain unchanged from the 2018 Residential Survey – with the Company's Garden remaining the clear favourite among respondents.

THE COMPANY'S GARDEN

76.2%



MOST POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT DESTINATIONS:



RESIDENTS WOULD LIKE MORE OF THESE:

LONGER SHOPPING HOURS

60%



MOVIE THEATRES

44.6%



PUBLIC PARKS WITH PLAYGROUNDS

45.1%



DOING BUSINESS IN THE CBD

THE OFFICE IS HERE TO STAY

It's time to come back to work! In the short term, working remotely to prevent the spread of Covid-19 makes sense. But the office is irreplaceable in many respects. The workplace also plays a crucial role in ensuring the Cape Town Central City is the most successful in South Africa. Here we build the (strong) case for why people will, and need to, return to the office.

Remote working is for the birds. This is the view of the CEO of Netflix, Reed Hastings, who recently told *The Wall Street Journal* that working from home is "a pure negative".

While millions of workers continue to work from home around the world in a bid to prevent the spread of the coronavirus pandemic, companies are starting to figure out how to get their employees back to work safely.

Unlike Netflix, other Silicon Valley giants like Twitter, Facebook and Google have extended their work-from-home policies. Hastings, however, is keen to get his teams back in the office as soon as possible.

"I don't see any positives to working from home," he said.

While Google has given its 200 000 employees the opportunity to work from home until the end of the year, its commitment to the office was confirmed when it recently signed up for more office space next to its upcoming \$1.2 billion HQ in London.

Like Hastings, Tasso Evangelinos, CEO of the Cape Town Central City Improvement District (CCID), believes it is harder for teams to collaborate when they are not together. Evangelinos says while technology has allowed for productive home-based work, it is no replacement for the office. "Working from home goes against human nature. Many people are feeling the impact of solo working. The novelty of not having to commute is starting to be replaced by a need to have somewhere to go in the morning."

FEELINGS OF ISOLATION

Stats back this up. A recent survey by Giant Leap, one of South Africa's

largest workplace consultancies, revealed that 86 % of people wanted to go back to working in an office. While remote work was initially very popular, people feel they don't have a work-life balance. People also feel isolated and are experiencing difficulties in carrying out team tasks, with many missing their co-workers. This correlates with Weforum's finding that the second biggest struggle for remote workers is loneliness. Issue number one is switching off mentally after 17h00.

There are, of course, other issues. Many people don't have a home set-up conducive to productivity. South Africa

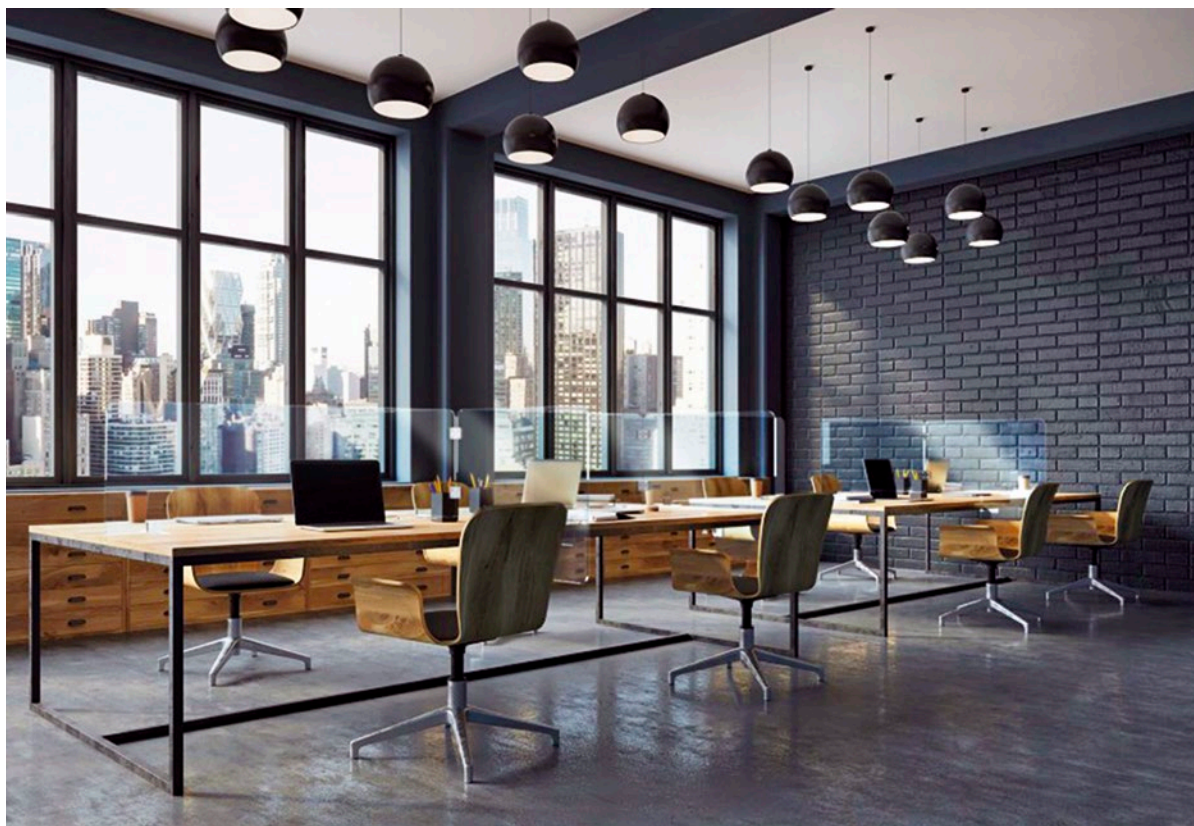
also has high data costs, and many people are not adequately connected. Then there's load-shedding affecting different staff at different times, making it difficult to coordinate large meetings.

INNOVATION THRIVES IN THE OFFICE

Rob Kane, CEO of Boxwood Property Fund and CCID chairperson, says the workplace is critical to innovation, and in the long term, working from home will harm a company's culture, and affect staff motivation, passion and commitment. "Being in the same space as colleagues is vital for upskilling those who are less experienced."

Cape Town organisational ecologist Leon du Toit says the office provides structure, rhythm, discipline and predictability. This gives managers a level of control over work delivery.

These factors all contribute to a business's success, and to the success of the CBD and greater Cape Town economy. Says Evangelinos: "The pandemic has shown that remote working is possible, however the long-term effects have yet to be measured. Retailers, residents and offices all exist together. If you remove one from the ecosystem, our cities may need to be reimagined and repurposed."



WHY THEY LOVE THE OFFICE



THERESA BOKS

Theresa Boks is the building manager at Mutual Heights in Darling Street, a residential building with about 175 apartments. She deals with maintenance issues and service providers to ensure owners and residents have a safe and clean environment. Interestingly, she started in her new role on 20 April 2020, when South Africa was under stringent Level 5 Lockdown regulations. At the time, she had to manage a new property with limited resources and information from home. When the country moved to Level 3 Lockdown in June, Boks was all too happy to return to the office. **"I enjoy the interaction with staff and residents and being able to resolve issues swiftly."** Boks says she always wears a mask and maintains Covid-19 protocols. "I am not scared when I am out and about, whether I am inside or outside our building."



SARAH DIVARIS

Asset Manager at Boxwood Property Fund, Sarah Divaris has been working in the CBD for over three years. Based at Atterbury House, she is responsible for managing Boxwood's R1.4 billion Cape-based commercial property portfolio, marketing and general operations. She's been back in the office since May and believes that **"there's no substitute for face-to-face interaction"**. For Divaris, being back at work has advantages. "Taking on new staff is extremely difficult, if not impossible, when you're working remotely. We have been able to easily integrate a new employee into our team." In terms of skills and relationships, Divaris says sharing market knowledge and picking up ideas in everyday conversations has also been beneficial. She also feels secure in the city centre. "I feel safe, more productive and much happier being back at my desk than being at home."



DONNA-MIA VAN DER HEYDE

In 2021, Donna-Mia van der Heyde will be celebrating 20 years of working on The Piazza on Church Square as an accounts administrator at Jeff Gowar Inc. She came back to the office "the minute she could" on 1 May. "Yes, on Workers' Day! Our fantastic boss made our return to work pleasant. We're all in this together and in these uncertain times, I'm very grateful to still have an office to return to." Van der Heyde says in the office, **"the lines of communication are much faster and clearer and there are no distractions or delays"**. She also enjoys the camaraderie, "even at a distance". Her advice to people still working from home is that balance is important. "You should be able to separate work from home. Set boundaries and create a balance. If you can't do that, it's best to return to the office."

PLAY

COME AND PLAY IN THE CITY CENTRE

The Cape Town CBD is everyone's playground and is open for business. With great weather this Spring and all the safety protocols implemented by CBD businesses in place, it's time to come back to town. Here's our pick of events and activities to enjoy.

For more event info, visit City Views on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CityViewsCapeTown.

FIRST THURSDAYS

First Thursday of every month

First Thursdays, the popular monthly night-time event that enables Capetonians to enjoy the CBD's art galleries, cultural attractions restaurants and other businesses, is back in business. Treat yourself to an after-hours walk in the Cape Town CBD, where you can enjoy the vibe. All retail venues have Covid-19 protocols in place.
When: 17h00 till late
www.first-thursdays.co.za

BIG SISTER

Now on till 28 November 2020

The Trolley Dollies are back to lift your spirits with their humour after spending Lockdown in self-imposed silence. In Big Sister, they "dish the dirt as they see it on the alarming events of the past few months". Book your spot and let your hair down at Gate 69.
Where: Gate 69, 87 Bree St
When: Wed, Thurs, Fri & Sat (suggested arrival time is 19h00 and the show starts at 20h00)
Cost: R390 – R450
www.gate69.co.za

BOOK LOUNGE

Ongoing

The iconic Central City bookstore, the Book Lounge, is waiting for your patronage! Come in and view their wonderful selection of books. What's more, bring the kids to Storytime at the Book Lounge which takes place every Saturday morning.
Where: Book Lounge, 71 Roeland St
When: 09h00 – 17h00 (Monday to Friday), 09h00 – 16h00 (Saturday), 10h00 – 16h00 (Sunday)
www.booklounge.co.za

GIGI ROOFTOP BAR

Ongoing

Visit the CBD to enjoy the finest cocktails at GiGi Rooftop Bar at the Gorgeous George hotel. GiGi was voted as the Hotel Bar of the Year at the recent South African Bartending Accolades & Recognition Awards. The venue was also a finalist in the New Cocktail Bar of the Year category. Many of the city centre's bars feature on this year's list of South Africa's best bars, which is more reason to come to town.
Where: GiGi Rooftop Bar, 118 St Georges Mall
When: 07h30 – 24h00
www.gigirooftop.com

WATER MARK BY LAUREL HOLMES

24 October till 14 November 2020

Treat yourself to Water Mark, a beautiful exhibition of paintings and printmaking by Laurel Holmes. Says Holmes: "I'm interested in the aesthetic of nature, which has been deeply influential throughout my life. The idea of water and its mark is used in my work to refer to the metaphoric ebb and flow of human lives: the departure and return or the swirling of emotions and experiences."
Where: StateoftheART Gallery, 50 Buitenkant St (exhibition also available online)
When: 10h00 – 16h00 (Monday to Friday), 10h00 – 13h00 (Saturday)
www.stateoftheart-gallery.com



EAST CITY CYCLES FRIDAY SOCIAL RIDE

Ongoing

To discover your CBD and city in a new way and with new friends, join East City Cycles for their Friday rides which follow a coastal route to Hout Bay and back to the CBD's East City. The rides end with a fabulous cup of coffee at Bootlegger Coffee Company in Harrington Street. Bring your bike, helmet, and mask up.
Where: East City Cycles, 50 Harrington St
When: 05h45 – 07h30
www.eastcitycycles.com

EAST CITY VINTAGE MARKET

Ongoing

Come and play at the East City's Vintage Market. The family-friendly outdoor market promotes conscious consumerism and specialises in mouthwatering food, deli products, vintage clothing and entertainment. The East City has a great vibe and awesome retailers. We encourage you to linger in the neighbourhood until the afternoon.
Where: Near the corner of Harrington and Constitution streets
When: 09h00 – 15h00

THE ADVENTURES OF MBALI

Now on till 30 April 2021

Did you know that 22 April marked the 50th anniversary of Earth Day? To commemorate the milestone aimed at supporting environmental protection, Iziko Museums of South Africa launched a comic book strip featuring Mbali, a young explorer on a mission to fight climate change. Children are bound to enjoy The Adventures of Mbali.
Where: South African Museum, 25 Queen Victoria St
When: 10h00 – 14h30 (Tuesday to Sunday)
Cost: R5 – R30
www.iziko.org.za

WALKING HISTORY TOUR BY CULTURE CONNECT

24 October and 6 November 2020

Enjoy a fascinating history walking tour by Kate Crane Briggs, founding director of Culture Connect SA, South Africa's only art and design tour specialist offering both public and private tours. The tour will be led by experienced tour guide Lesley Cox, who will share captivating stories that make Cape Town unique. A maximum of ten people is allowed, with physical distancing aided by microphones and earpieces.
Where: Starts at the Castle of Good Hope and ends at the Company's Garden, where you can unwind at the Heritage Shop with a cup of coffee.
When: 09h30 – 11h30
Cost: R275 per person
www.cultureconnectsa.com

BARISTA INTRODUCTION COURSE

Ongoing

Love coffee and want to learn more? Check out the new Barista Introduction Course by Stellski Coffee Bar. It's the perfect experience to treat yourself or your coffee-obsessed friends. The two-hour course covers the history of coffee, how to make the perfect espresso as well as latte art. Reserve your spot by emailing hello@stellski.com.
Where: Stellski Coffee Bar, 59 Loop St
When: Depends on booking
Cost: R950
www.stellski.com



Remember to help the NGOs that help the homeless and give where it will make a DIFFERENCE.*

YOU CAN GIVE IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

SNAPSCAN

You can download the free SnapScan app onto your smartphone and SCAN the code (right) to donate the amount of your choice via your phone.



PAYPAL

Use the link below to make a donation via PayPal: <https://paypal.me/CCIDShowYouCare>.

SMS "GIVE" TO 38088

to donate R10 towards the CCID's NGO partners.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

for more information on the campaign, our NGO partners and other ways in which you can assist. www.showyoucare.co.za

* The Cape Town Central City Improvement District works closely with the following NGO partners in the Cape Town CBD:

The Hope Exchange
Vocational training and rehabilitation services for adults

Khulisa Social Solutions
Work-based rehabilitation for the chronic homeless

Straatwerk
Job rehabilitation projects for street people

The Homestead
Residential care and family integration for boys

Ons Plek
Residential care and reunification processes for girls

Youth Solutions Africa
Shelter and skills training programmes for adults