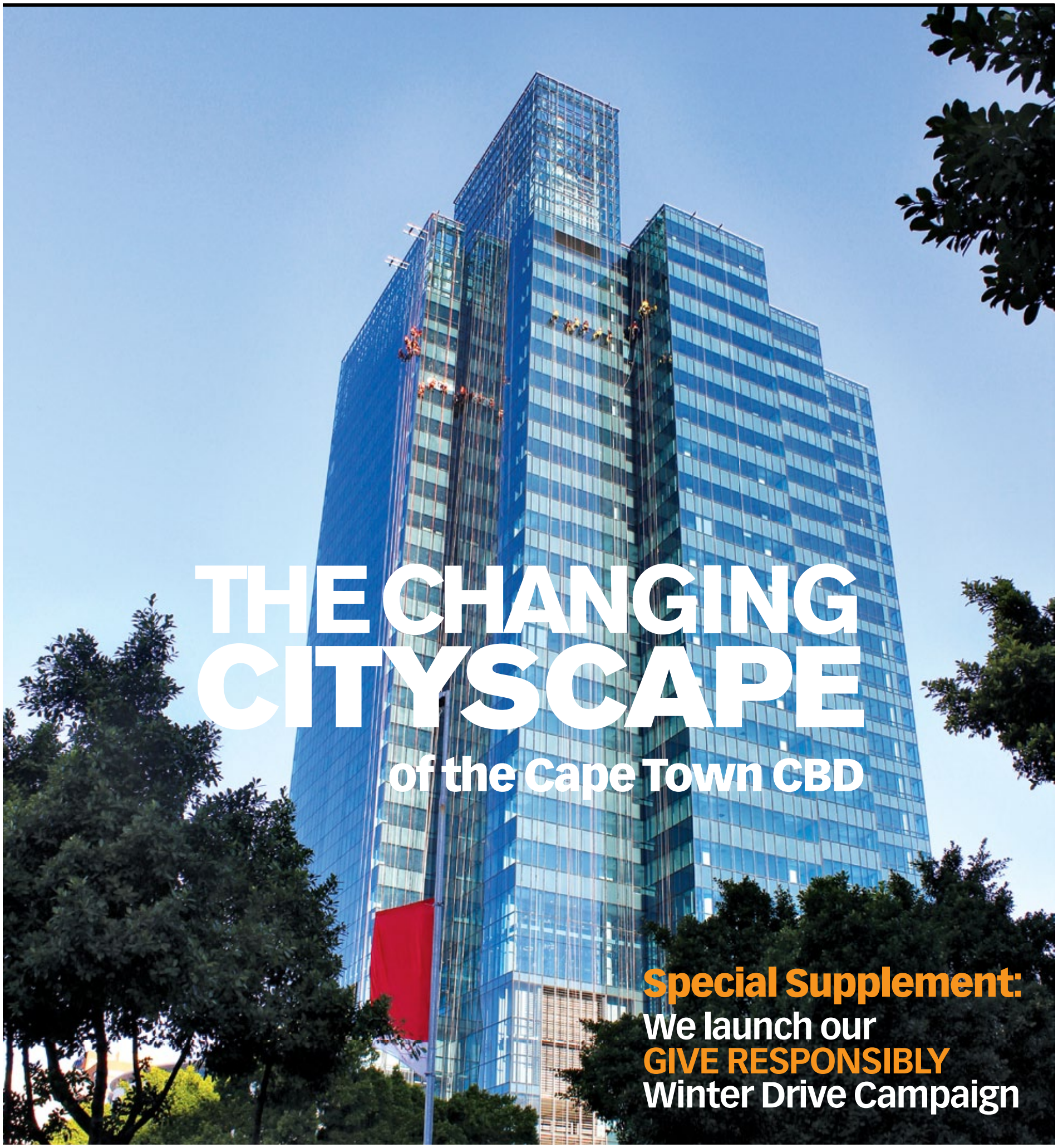
CITY VIEWS

www.capetowncid.co.za

YOUR FREE CAPE TOWN CENTRAL CITY PAPER

June / July 2014



THE CHANGING CITYSCAPE of the Cape Town CBD

Special Supplement:
We launch our
GIVE RESPONSIBLY
Winter Drive Campaign

Cape Town's tallest building, PORTSIDE, opens for BUSINESS

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Full speed ahead for lower BREE Street

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Imagine THE CBD: ideas on which to thrive

>> page 6

Imagining Cape Town

The past few weeks have been very exciting ones for the Cape Town Central City, not least of which because of the phenomenal exposure we've had from the media (thank you, members of the press) on the new developments that will be opening their doors in the CBD over the next five years.

These were revealed at a function hosted at the end of May by the CCID for property developers, investors, brokers and visionaries on the 11th floor of the stunning new Portside building at the harbour end of Bree Street. You can find out more about this new landmark, developed jointly by Old Mutual Property and FNB, on pg 4.

For example, along with the over 57 000m² of office space the building brings to our downtown, a huge portion of its ground floor space is retail, adding substantially to the boom that this side of Bree St has been experiencing over the past few months. We tell you more about this on pg 5.

There's no doubt the CBD is still working towards its full potential and many opportunities still exist.

The next few years, for example, will see a complete transformation of the Foreshore area with the new Netcare Christiaan Barnard Memorial Hospital, the expansion of the CTICC and the proposed redevelopment of the entire Artscape precinct, including the upgrading of the building, the internal facilities and the Founder's Garden. Imagine the opportunities to bring the right "add ons" to this area in retail and other services? But perhaps one of the most exciting things about the plans for the Foreshore is how much public space has been factored into the developments.

Over the years, I've travelled to a number of cities abroad and this is one area that's always fascinated me: public space – and the best management and utilisation of it. Our writer, Judy Bryant, had a conversation with me around the best of what I've seen across the globe and this appears on pg 6.

But, in all this excitement, we also need to remember it's another winter and a particularly hard time for those who find themselves on the streets. We therefore ask that you join us in promoting both our GIVE RESPONSIBLY campaign and the Winter Drive that accompanies it at this time of year. We've made it as easy as possible for you in a special pull-out-and-keep supplement in the centre of this publication and thank you – in advance – for the way I know you will rise to this call to action.

TASSO EVANGELINOS
COO of the CCID

What have we done for you lately?

A dashboard outlining just some of the work of the CCID over the past two months since our last edition.

Stay SAFE SECURITY

ISSUED PARKING-RELATED FINES TO THE TOTAL OF
2 072
amounting to
R772 450

RENDERED MOTOR VEHICLE ASSISTANCE
137 times

RENDERED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
41 times

RESPONDED TO MEDICAL AND RESCUE CALL OUTS
85 times

ARRESTS MADE TOGETHER WITH OUR PARTNERS
356

DRUG RELATED ARRESTS
100

CRIME PREVENTION INITIATIVES CONDUCTED
9 656

WARNINGS ISSUED
1 057

ILLEGAL TRADING OFFENCES DEALT WITH
8

Show you CARE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

26 adults
were assisted/referred to shelters

2 adults
assisted to hospital

5 adults
referred to Straatwerk for an employment opportunity

4 adults
assisted back home

1 mothers with a child
assisted

7 children
referral to the Department of Social Development

Donations received
We'd like to thank:
STRAND TOWERS in Strand St for the donation of bedding and sanitaryware, which were in turn donated to the Haven Shelters in Napier St and District Six, as well as the Ark .

MAITLAND CID: for the donation of computer monitors which have been donated to Youth Solutions Africa.

Keep it CLEAN URBAN MANAGEMENT

MUNICIPAL DRAINS CLEANED
2 699
removing
103 bags of clothes
AND
86 drain covers
installed
AND
25 pipes and 70 broken lids
repaired

ROAD MAINTENANCE REPAIRS UNDERTAKEN
253

ROAD MARKINGS PAINTED
604

INCIDENTS OF GRAFFITI REMOVED
355

STRINGS & STICKERS REMOVED
1 755

ILLEGAL POSTERS IDENTIFIED
1 521

279 CCID CIGARETTE BINS CLEANED
340kgs
of cigarette butts

WASTE REMOVED BY J&M CLEANING TO LANDFILL
49 720kg

COMMUNICATIONS

THE CCID BUSINESS BREAKFAST ANNOUNCING THE DEVELOPMENT PLANS TO BE ROLLED OUT IN THE CENTRAL CITY OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, GENERATED MEDIA COVERAGE ACROSS THE PLATFORMS OF PRINT, WEB, RADIO AND TELEVISION AMOUNTING TO MORE THAN

6.3 million

EXPOSURES IN JUST ONE WEEK - LOCALLY, NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONAL

CITY VIEWS

City Views **is a free community paper published by the Central City Improvement District. It is our vision to ensure that the Cape Town CBD is Safe, Clean, Caring and Open for Business for all who use the Central City, whether they live, work or play here, or are passing through.**

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Tell us your news as well as your thoughts

Are you a new business or retailer in the Cape Town Central City? Are you planning an event or an exhibition? Would you like to write a letter to the editor or let us know what you would like to see in ***City Views?*** We would love to hear from you so email Aziza on aziza@capetowncid.co.za

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SAVE THESE NUMBERS ON YOUR PHONE

If you live or work in the Central City Improvement District, be sure to save these numbers on your phone.

CCID 24-hour hotline number:
082 415 7127

SAPS Control Room: **021 467 8002**

CCID Social Department: **082 563 4289**

You can also Tweet us:
@Cape TownCID

or Facebook us
www.facebook.com/CapeTownCCID

and follow our "Give Responsibly" campaign
www.facebook.com/GiveResponsibly

CCID rolls out clean campaign

Ongoing surveys conducted by the Cape Town Central City Improvement District (CCID) continue to reveal that participants view the Cape Town CBD as the cleanest "downtown" in South Africa.

Says Tasso Evangelinos, Chief Operating Officer of the CCID: "This was first achieved as a result of the partnership that exists between the City's Cleaning and Environmental Health Departments and the top-up services the CCID provides as a Special Ratings Area through its Urban Management department. However, the Cape Town CBD continues to achieve this recognition year-on-year because we constantly research best practice international examples to bring to the Central City."

The latest examples sourced from overseas have been incorporated into the CCID's winter Clean Campaign which launched recently. "We've kept the ideas that have worked well, improved the ones that could work better and introduced some new approaches to our work," says Evangelinos.

In addition to the usual day-to-day cleaning operations that take place in the Central City, four targeted projects form part of this year's campaign.

"We've kept the ideas that have worked well, improved the ones that could work better and introduced some new approaches"

New street cleaning trolleys

With the intention of assisting the CCID's cleaning contractor, J&M Cleaning, to make their street cleaners' jobs both more efficient and easier, the CCID has incorporated 20 new trollies into the daily routine of keeping the CBD clean from building edge to curbside.

Explains Evangelinos: "In the past, this job was done entirely by hand, with bags being filled and carried one-by-one to collection points across town. The new trolleys enable each cleaner to fill and load numerous bags in one go, before moving them to the collection points. It also minimises the on-street collection point by about one third."

Waste management targeting illegal dumping

One of two projects within the Clean Campaign being run jointly between the City of Cape Town's Solid Waste Management and the CCID, this combats illegal dumping in the CBD.

When new premises open, it's the onus of the venue to ensure that it adheres to the City's guidelines for solid waste management, which also outline the fines that could be issued should illegal dumping occur.

"The CCID's role in this," says Richard Beesley, manager of the CCID's Urban Management department, "is to identify where the dumping is coming from once it's discovered, and this is usually from premises in close proximity to where the waste is found. The City will then step in to contact the property owners who own the premises in which the defaulting retailer is situated. The property owner will be issued with a warning and, if the tenant continues to dump illegally, the property owner will be fined. This is a new approach as in the past the offenders themselves were contacted. Now we're putting the onus on the property owner to bring his tenant into line."

A procedural document has also been prepared by the City outlining the exact guidelines to be followed by all retailers in terms of obtaining waste bins and entering into a cleaning contract with the City as well as what the fines are for non-compliance. "The CCID will also assist the City in getting these procedures into the right hands."

Rodent baiting

This is another project being run in partnership with the City through its Environmental (Municipal) Health Services. The CCID has already completed a pilot project aimed at improving the system that was used in the past to keep rodent numbers down in the Central City. With the success of this pilot project, a total of 1 000 bait boxes have now been installed in strategic spots throughout the CBD.

The CCID's new street cleaning trolley to be used by J&M Cleaning staff.

Explains Beesley: "The bait boxes are monitored by the CCID's Rodent Squad – nicknamed the 'Rat Pack' – and forms part of our job creation initiative with the NGO Straatwerk. A three-person team has been trained specifically for this task by the City of Cape Town's Department of Environmental Health, who also then supervise and support the squad on an ongoing basis. It's important to note that the bait boxes are designed in order to ensure that no other animals are poisoned, which could adversely affect the eco system of the Central City environment."

However, the initiatve does not replace the need for privately owned premises to institute their own rodent control measures and ensure effective hygenic management of waste, says Zandile Mahlangu, Executive Director, City Health, who stresses: "It's only when all roleplayers work together that rodent numbers in the CBD will be brought under control."

Smart Smoker's pocket pouch

First implemented in 2013, the success of this project has led to a further 35 000 pocket-sized, portable cigarette pouches being produced for free distribution throughout the Central City.

"We've just completed a massive distribution at major intersections and public areas throughout the CBD," says Evangelinos, "particularly to high traffic areas outside large corporate buildings where smokers traditionally gather."

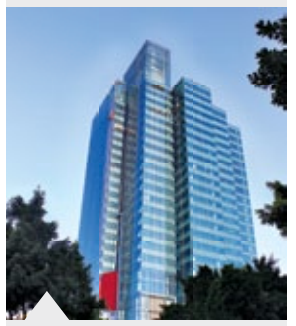
Handy enough to fit into a pocket, these pouches are mini fireproof ashtrays into which a smouldering cigarette can be safely stubbed out when no other ashtrays or cigarette bins are in sight. The pouches are also washable, making them more hygienic to carry and thus promoting their continued reuse.

To learn more about any of the CCID's Urban Management projects, please call 021 419 1881 or email lynn@capetowncid.co.za

New retailers

We'd like to welcome the following new retailers to the CBD

Amway
has opened on the cnr Louis Gradner & Christiaan Barnard Sts. **Tel 021 405 1752**



Portside
The new Portside building, cnr Bree and Hans Strijdom, welcomes vida e caffè, Borage Bistro, Solace Therapy and the Royal Bavarian Bakery to its ground floor. **See pg 4 for more details.**

WOZA
New eatery WOZA has opened at 69 Burg St (cnr Burg & Church Sts). **Tel 021 422 0053**

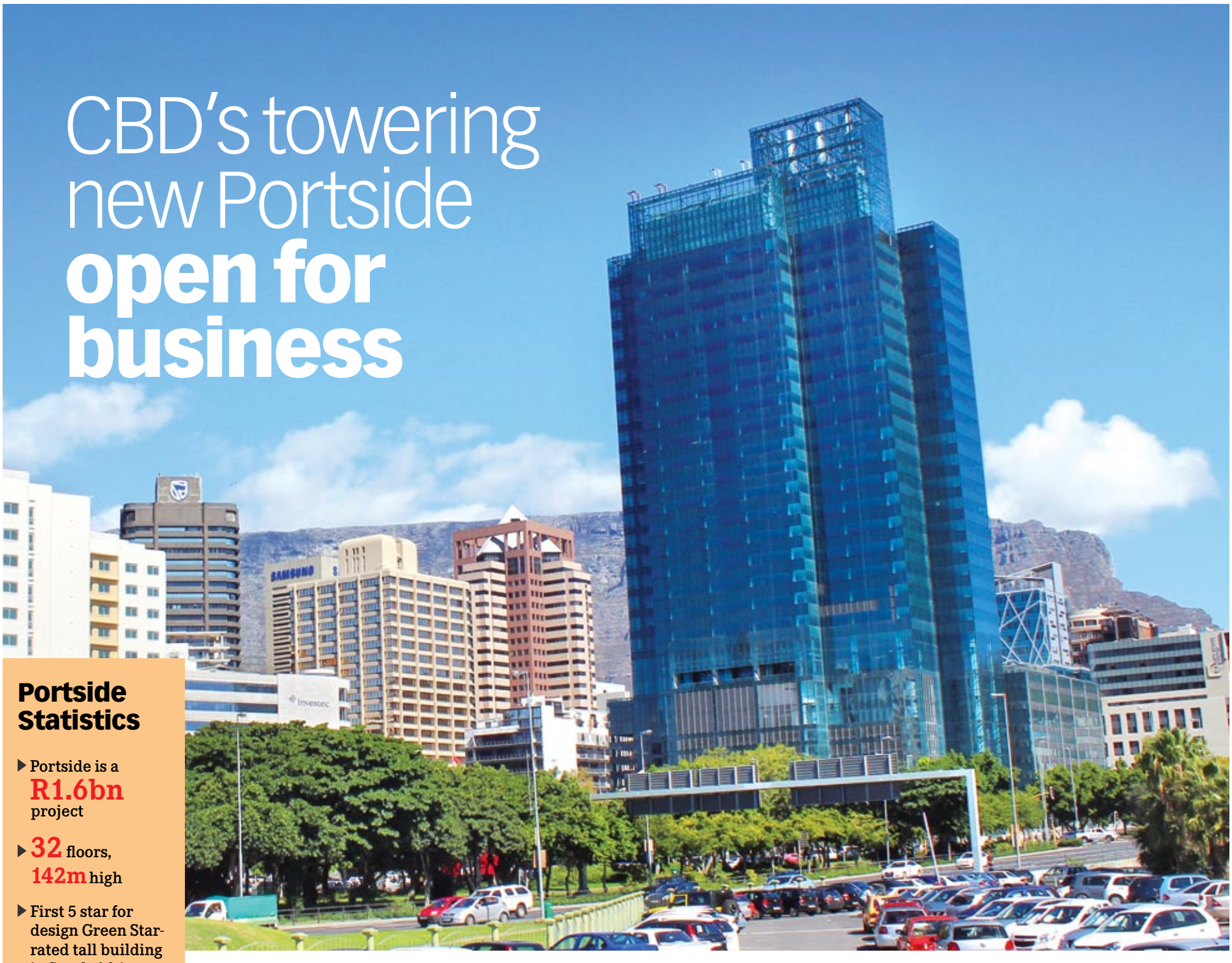
The Saben Spectacle Company
The Saben Spectacle Company has opened at 22 Bree St (ground floor Bowman Gilfillan building). **Tel 021 418 1191**

Useful numbers in the Cape Town CBD

Here are the numbers for services offered by the CCID's partners in the Central City (namely SAPS and the City of Cape Town), as well as our own 24-hour number. Be sure to put these into your phone or scan the QR codes directly.

Alcohol & Drug Helpline	**Adult Social Development**	**Disaster Risk Management**	**Child Social Development**	**SAPS Central City**	**Traffic Police**	**Emergency Ambulance, Health, Noise & Fire**
0800 435 748	0800 872 201	080 911 4357 / 021 597 6000 (24 hrs)	0800 220 250	021 467 8001/2 (24 hrs)	0860 765 423	107 (landlines) /021 480 7700 (24 hrs)
Traffic Signal Faults	**Metro Police**	**Law Enforcement**	**Cable Theft**	**Prepaid Electricity Meters**	**CCID Safety and Security**	**Refuse Collection, Water Issues, Street Lights and Electricity**
0860 001 948	0860 765 423	021 596 1999 (24 hrs)	0800 222 771	0800 220 440	082 415 7127 (24 hrs)	0860 103 089

CBD's towering new Portside **open for business**



Portside – changing the cityscape of the Cape Town CBD.

Portside Statistics

- Portside is a **R1.6bn** project
- **32** floors, **142m** high
- First 5 star for design Green Star-rated tall building in South Africa
- Over **57 000m²** of office space
- **1 550m²** of retail and banking space
- **1 382** parking bays, of which 68 are fitted with chargers for electrically powered cars
- **70%** of all construction waste re-used or recycled
- **270** bicycle racks (with accompanying showers and lockers)
- Provides **150%** more fresh air than stipulated standards with the potential to provide 100% fresh air for 60% of the year
- All office space has uninterrupted views.

A towering new landmark has added its silhouette to the cityscape of the Cape Town CBD. At a height of 142 metres it is not only the highest skyscraper in the city, but also one of the cleanest and healthiest urban working environments in the country.

Portside has now joined a number of other tall builldings that exist on the Cape Town skyline. All classified as skyscrapers (and all existing within the CBD), these include 1 Thibault Square, 2 Long Street, ABSA Towers, Triangle House and the Metlife Centre.

The R1.6bn Portside project is a joint initiative by Old Mutual and FirstRand Bank. It is situated on a site bordered by three of the widest streets in the CBD – Buitengragt, Bree and Hans Strijdom – and includes open public spaces, which complement the height of the building.

Designed by DHK and Louis Karol Architects, the building incorporates innovative design, construction and management features to qualify it as the first Green Star-rated tall building in South Africa. Each component of the facade has even been unitised and marked, so that it can be disassembled and re-erected on another site should Portside be altered in the future.

LED light fittings have been used throughout the office space and the parking garage, covering about 99% of the building. Energy use is further minimised through movement sensors that control the air-conditioning and lighting system, and light sensors that read the lux level and adjust the lighting accordingly. Grey water will be recycled and rainwater harvested and stored in the 500 000-litre water reservoir at the base of the building.

A series of electric car-charging vending points is provided, plus wiring for additional points, for on-site recharging of electric cars. In addition to the 227 bicycle racks for staff, a number of community bicycle racks have been installed on the pavement for visitors. This is aimed at encouraging alternative means of transport, supporting both the City of Cape Town's non-motorised transport strategy and in particular its *TRAVELSMART* initiative.

The offices have been constructed on top of seven levels of above-ground parking to optimise the fantastic views, and there are two entrances to the building – one on Bree and the other on Buitengragt.

So who will enjoy these state-of-the-art facilities? Half of the landmark tower will house three divisions of FirstRand Bank (FNB, RMB and Wesbank). A state-of-the-art banking hall will be located on the ground floor.

According to Faieda Jacobs, Regional Manager (Coastal) for Old Mututal Property, the tenth office floor (measuring 2 750m²) has been occupied already since April by Zaralab, a software development company. Meanwhile, FNB is in the process of taking occupation, while an additional four floors of office space (11 000m²) are currently under negotiation.

All the retail space, including the FNB branch (accessed via the Buitengragt entrance and measuring 1 550m²) has already been snapped up. Tenants include Kauai, a restaurant named Borage Bistro, the Royal Bavarian Bakery, a Vida e Caffé coffee shop, Iyo Frozen Yoghurt, Solace beauty salon and Active Sushi. There's even a venue called the Hard Pressed Café, a retro-inspired café that's not only an ideal place to grab a quick cup of coffee, but also to hang out for a few hours to listen to some wonderful tunes from the great selection of old-style vinyl (as in records) available.

This, along with other retail now being planned for lower Bree Street as well as that which has opened recently (se pg 5), is resulting in a complete metamorphosis of this part of town.

The stunning new Portside development is the culmination of literally decades of planning. The site was acquired by the Old Mutual investment Group in two transactions nearly 20 years apart. The Brian Porter property in Bree Street was originally bought on a sale and leaseback basis in the mid-1980s, and the rest of the block was bought from the City of Cape Town in 2007.

Says Faieda: "Old Mutual owns a number of buildings in the CBD, notably Triangle House, which was the last high-rise office tower it developed in 1993. A large portion of the Portside site has been in the Old Mutual portfolio for over 25 years. The decision by Old Mutual and FirstRand to partner in developing this land reflects their confidence and commitment to the CBD."

For more information on Portside, please call: Jeanna Wilson, Communications, Old Mutual Investment Group
Tel: 021 509 5667
Email: jwilson@oldmutualinvest.com

Full speed ahead **for Bree Street**

Bree Street (initially built wide enough for an ox wagon to do a U-turn) has been revving up towards a revival over the past few decades, but the past year in particular has seen it reaching full throttle.

Business booming on lower Bree

With lower Bree Street on the rise, a number of new retailers have moved into the area bringing a great mix of venues and services. So whether you're in search of a new spot for a child's birthday party, or require a specialist book on woodworking, lower Bree Street should now be on your radar.

ROLY POLYZ is a crèche and, on weekends and public holidays, an indoor party and play venue. Children can scale a huge jungle gym, play in a colourful ball pond, enjoy painting and more. **8 Bree St, 021 418 1818, rina@rolypolyz.co.za, www.rolypolyz.co.za**

SOLACE THERAPY aims to help men and women look and feel their best by providing high quality beauty treatments at affordable prices. The luxurious pampering promises to leave clients feeling fabulous from head to toe. **Portside building, Shop 3 on Bree St side, 021 418 0924, ushanta@solacebeauty.co.za, www.solacebeauty.co.za, Twitter @SolaceTherapyCT**

BORAGE BISTRO offers excellent breakfasts and lunches. Entrepreneur Christian Vaatz and head chef Frank Marks focus on high-quality produce and efficient service, for a contemporary and welcoming ambience. **Portside building, Shop 7B, Ground Floor, Cnr Buitengragt & Hans Strijdom Ave, 021 418 0992, dennis@borage.com, www.borage.co.za**

ROYAL BAVARIAN BAKERY mixes South African and German culinary flavours that share a common love of good bread, quality product, style and service. **Shop 6, Portside building, Cnr Bree St & Hans Strijdom Ave**

VIDA E CAFFÈ is Portuguese for "life and coffee" and delivers an authentically European experience in espresso and coffee drinking. **Portside building, cnr Bree & Hans Strijdom, portside@caffe.co.za. Open Mon-Fri 7am-5pm, Sat 7am-4pm, Sun & public holidays 8am-4pm**

THE SABEN SPECTACLE COMPANY is an independent optometry practice, with registered optometrist and contact lens consultant, Michael Saben, opening conveniently early to accommodate business clients. **22 Bree St, cnr Prestwich St (just next to Tribakery), 021 418 1191, mike@sabenspecs.co.za. Open 7.30am-5pm Mon-Fri**

HARDWARE CENTRE is a specialist family operation geared at woodworkers. It stocks all the best local and international brands of tools and has a large collection of woodworking books. Stop here for professional advice, whether you are a master crafter or new enthusiast. **14 Bree St, 021 4217362, www.hardwarecentre.co.za**

Originally kick-started by the renovation of Heritage Square back in the 1990s, Bree Street has been gathering momentum ever since in pockets of activity, among them locations such as &Union for craft beer (110 Bree St), Orphanage Cocktail Emporium (227 Bree St), design textiles shop and studio Skinny laMinx (201 Bree St) and Jason's Bakery (185 Bree St), to name but a few.

This momentum has now spread to the lower Bree Street and Foreshore area, which offers everything from office space to pre-work coffees and sultry sundowners. More legal and financial companies are moving in, supported by retail, culinary, boutique and design-focused businesses.

CCID Precinct Manager for this area, Mmiselo Ntsime, recalls how things have changed: "When I started working here in 2007, the Foreshore was very quiet. A few new businesses tried to open, but they often closed down after two to three months. And of those businesses that did exist in the area, many of them were what we could call 'problem-atic' or not the best kind of business for a thriving CBD.

"The new Portside [Cape Town's recently completed, tallest skyscraper – see pg 4] was the site of a petrol station and a club. Once that was demolished the area became very quiet."

However, within the past few years, developers have turned their focus onto the area. Along with FNB and Old Mutual – partners in Portside – other big business names are also putting their mark on the area. This includes Bowman Gilfillan, one of Africa's leading corporate law firms, that has relocated to a new, highly visible office block at 22 Bree Street. Other established legal and financial firms in the vicinity already include Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr, ENSafrica and Investec.

"When I started working here in 2007, the Foreshore was very quiet. A few new businesses tried to opened, but they often closed down after two to three months."

Those locals that bought residential property a few years' back in the Icon complex in nearby Hans Strijdom Avenue are reaping the rewards of a revamped "hood". Along with the retail already in the building (and including a Foodlovers Market), residents are benefiting from the large number of smaller businesses that have also now sprung up in lower Bree Street. I Love My Laundry, which first opened in Buitengragt Street, now also trades in Bree (number 14), and offers services like laundry, dry cleaning and dyeing. But it's the Brazilian coffee, boutique wines and dim sum that attract many of the locals.

True Italic Italian Café (number 15) serves Italian fare such as homemade pasta and deli delights. And at number 17, Venezuelan-born chef Migdalia Bellorin has opened her own restaurant under the Orinoco brand. She serves authentic Latino dishes from around the continent, authentic cocktails and freshly squeezed juices.

Tribeca at number 22 is named after the Tribeca area of Lower Manhattan in New York. It is based on the concept of a combined bakery and restaurant that produces freshly baked pastries as well as breakfast, lunch and dinner. Right next door (also at 22) Giancarlo's is popular for good coffees, breakfasts and Italian delicacies.

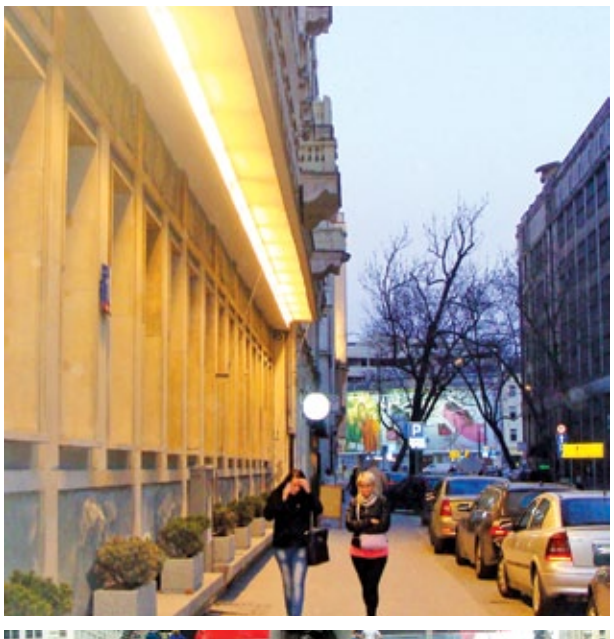
Another exciting new development under way is Touchstone House, diagonally across the road from both Portside and 22 Bree. This site was occupied from 1895 until the building was gutted in a fire a few years ago. The R200m new sectional title office development incorporates the old Touchstone warehouse façade.

Mmiselo smiles with pride: "This is a completely different precinct now."

RIGHT: The Bowman Gilfilan building at 22 Bree St.
TOP RIGHT: Artist's impressions of the top floor entertainment deck and exterior of Touchstone House.

Imagine this
for the Cape Town CBD

Looking out for great ideas and concepts to bring home to the Cape Town Central City is top of the list for CCID Chief Operating Officer, Tasso Evangelinos, whenever he travels to other urban destinations.



Cape Town's already sizzling Central City has huge potential to become even more attractive, safe and vibey. And the good news is that some of the most effective ideas have been tried and tested elsewhere in the world, and are relatively simple and cost-effective to implement. All it takes, says Tasso Evangelinos, is an open mind, embracing spaces in creative ways and working pro-actively with others to become part of a solution of which everyone can be proud and enjoy.

To keep abreast of global trends, the CCID attends a number of annual yearly gatherings such as the International Downtown Association (IDA) conference. Although these events themselves regularly put forward great concepts and discussions, Tasso discovers numerous simple and cost-effective ideas while just out on the streets of CBDs abroad.

"The only way to truly explore a city properly is by walking it" notes Tasso.

He may get some strange glances photographing objects such as rubbish bins and bicycle racks, but what he captures often results in many inspiring ideas to share and discuss back home. Flipping enthusiastically through the images on his laptop, he lists a variety of the concepts and projects he's seen far and wide: lunchtime appearances in New York's Times Square by performers in current stage shows; an auditorium for free music performances in Austin, Texas; spotlit historic buildings in Warsaw; and of course the High Line in New York - a pathway built on an abandoned railway track above the Manhattan streetscape.

Truly inspired by what he's seen,Tasso believes there are many great key concepts that would help develop our own public areas and the spaces between our buildings into places where people can safely relax, have fun, interact and earn a living. The top of his list for the Cape Town CBD would be:

▶ **A child-friendly Central City:** where streets, pavements, pedestrian areas and green spaces are both child-friendly and interactive, offering parents a beautiful and safe area in which to relax while they watch their children burning off energy on robust play equipment.

▶ **Multi-disciplinary performance platforms:** creating spaces for expression and performances that could take place day and night, in disciplines such as comedy, the circus, gymnastics, acting and busking.

▶ **Making music:** in addition to the platforms already mentioned, creating dedicated safe areas (with appropriate acoustics) for musical performances. While also ensuring that noise levels would not affect office workers, such a space would enable talented people to express themselves, drawing audiences and creating long-term opportunities for performers and organisations involved in music.

▶ **Informal trade:** creating uniform but highly recognisable and visually attractive informal trading stalls which could be clustered into well-managed (possibly specialist) markets, and which can also accommodate vendors of fast moving consumer goods in terms of meeting health and safety standards. These would both help create opportunities and support sustainable trading towards the full realisation of a well-managed secondary (SME) economy.

"The only way to truly explore a city properly is by walking it"

▶ **Heritage and history:** using tools such as public display boards with images, maps and clear directions (and distances) towards promoting the city's rich and varied heritage. Notes

ABOVE: Recapturing the streets: New Yorkers take back the streets around the Times Square area with pedestrianisation of the centre islands. ABOVE: Informative, directional signage in Warsaw. LEFT TOP TO BOTTOM: A children's playpark in New York; public lighting in Warsaw; 15 minutes of Broadway on Times Square in New York.

Tasso: "There could be so many story telling opportunities created for locals to tell visitors as well as other Capetonians about our diverse cultures and communities."

▶ **Public space management:** creating interactive public spaces that would be well-used by citizens. "Perhaps one oif the best international examples I've seen," says Tasso, "is the Highline in New York, which saw part of a disused overhead rail system turned into a public park."

"There could be so many story telling opportunities created for locals to tell visitors as well as other Capetonians about our diverse cultures and communities."

Simple features that make public space interactive could includesuch as functional yet decorative irrigation sprays would soften hard spaces and create fun for children. More benches would encourage passers-by to relax and people watch. Says Tasso: "The Grand Parade is one area with great potential for more experimentation; what it needs is for every entity – public and private - that has an interest in that space to be open to sharing ideas and information, and then work together to make it happen.

▶ **Pedestrianisation and non-motorised transport:** creating more spaces for people to walk safely and use bicycles and other forms of non-motorised transport. "And of course, actively encouraging them by whichever means possible to choose public transport," stresses Tasso.

▶ **Lighting public and private spaces:** well-positioned lighting brightens up dark alleys and streets, making them safer and better utilised. Uplighters – possibly in various colours – could spotlight heritage buildings, while LED lighting would ensure energy efficiency. "While the CCID is already engaging with the City in regards to public spaces in the CBD, we'd really like to encourage private property owners to back this idea, and think about lighting their own building facades."

▶ **Encourage ownership of public space:** Outdoor activities bring people together and need not cost a lot of money. For example, packing a sandwich lunch and sharing this with a friend and the pigeons, while sitting in the sun on a public bench.

Creating public space in New York: the conversion of the High Line.

"Get out of those offices and embrace your surroundings. You'll be amazed at what you find at ground level. So many office dwellers come into town, park in their building, and never set foot on the street. They're missing out on the whole developing and thriving urban street life in the CBD," says Tasso

"If we can get just some of these ideas up and running soon, the rest will follow. But we have to work together and support the City of Cape Town and one another in making these things happen. There is often no need for a big budget; a good idea, first and foremost, needs willingness, co-operation, effective communication and facilitation, with a can-do spirit."

Upscaling the Central Cityscape

A steady stream of development in the Central City is ensuring an effective environment in which to do business and an exciting place to unwind. From restaurants to hotels, government buildings to convention centres, architects and construction crews are hard at work. *City Views* took a walk around town to see what's changing the face of the CBD.

Making a public appearance:

Provincial Government is tackling the need for large office buildings to offer a friendly face to the public. In a project called the "Face of Government", it's upgrading the entrances, foyers and streets of the buildings in its Dorp/Wale Street complex. Several sub-projects include enclosing Keerom Street under the arches of the Provincial Legislature to create a new main entrance to Provincial Parliament and to other entrances in the precinct. This involves relocating the cafeteria and gym to street level, and installing paving in front of its Burg Street entrance, turning this into a public square.

Other projects include a paved square at the mosque, and resurfacing Dorp Street between Keerom and Bree. A water feature will be added, using spring water from underneath the 9 Dorp Street building. There will be a new office block for the Western Cape Education Department; a public walk-in centre; vendor kiosks along the Long and Loop Street facades; urban art on the corner of Dorp and Long Streets; and office space redesigned and upgraded with energy saving lifts, solar and PV panels and sustainable technologies. Project manager, David Aitchison, says the "Face of Government" project should be completed towards the end of June 2014.

The Foreshore is flying:

Having been an incomplete structure on a prime parcel of Foreshore land for a number of years, but now due to open its doors in August, Roggebaai Place in Jetty Street is taking shape. The modern glass, steel and concrete structure will have a double-volume ground floor welcoming guests into the entrance lobby, with retail space opening up onto the square.

The Towers (the landmark Standard Bank building) is also being upgraded to create a better working environment. A pedestrian walkway is planned to link Hertzog Boulevard and Old Marine Drive at the station entrance.

Aimed to be ready in 2017, the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC) will soon turn the first sod on its expansion. Corporate Communications Manager, Zeenat Parker, says this is set to double the centre's exhibition capacity and will allow the CTICC to stage more events, offer more flexibility and allow for an increase in the concurrent hosting of meetings, exhibitions and events that combine conferences and exhibitions.

Earlier this year, in recognition of World Design Capital 2014, Media24 held a competition calling for ideas to reimage the facade of the 52-year old Naspers Centre on the Foreshore. Three top architectural entries were selected from over 90 and while each fell short of the cost criteria, Media24's implementation team will now include elements of these designs in the R15m project. The three favoured designs were Tsai Design Studio's "Urban Sculpture"; MLB Architects' "Reimagining an Icon" and DBM Architects' "Roots".

On land formerly used by Media24 for parking, construction has started on the new multimillion-rand Netcare Christiaan Barnard Memorial Hospital. The complex will include state-of-the-art theatres, doctors' surgeries and consulting rooms, linked retail, a gym and a parkade. The hospital is expected to open its doors late 2015.

The re-development of the Artscape Theatre complex (including the Founders' Garden) is set to be completed by 2020, and will see upgrades not only to the internal facilities, but an entire revamp of the public space around the exterior.

In Christiaan Barnard Road, Ingenuity Property Investments has added four more floors of parking to the two it already has in a building here, taking the entire scheme to 810 bays. "The parking serves the entire block that we own, including Atlantic Centre, Reeds, 31 and 33 Martin Hammerschlag and 19 Louis Gradner," says CEO Arnold Maresky. "It will also service further offices we intend developing and have some parking available to let to third parties and surrounding properties, as well as short-term, ideally for events at the CTICC and Cape Town Stadium."

ARTISTS' IMPRESSIONS FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: the Founder's Garden at Artscape, The Towers in Hertzog Boulevard; the new Christiaan Barnard Memorial Hospital.

JUNE-JULY

WHAT'S ON
Climate Control

Dispel any boredom blues this winter with hot and happening events that showcase diverse local talents. There's plenty to draw you into the Central City - from Thursday evenings exploring the CBD or attending world-class theatre, to Saturday morning storytime for the little ones.

5 June & 3 July

▶ First Thursdays

On the first Thursday of every month, art galleries, shops and eateries around Cape Town's Central City stay open late for anyone to come and experience great art, entertainment, food and shopping. Start at any of the participating galleries and work your way around the CBD.
www.first-thursdays.co.za

13-15 June 2014

▶ National Book Fair

With over 120 events and 100 authors, illustrators, storytellers, book critics, puppet shows and book launches on offer, all under one roof, this year's Fair provides a unique insight into the world of publishing.
www.thebereed.co.za, CTICC, 1 Lower Long St, 09h00-18h00. Cost R50, R20 pensioners, free for under 18 years. Tickets at the door.

19 June & 17 July

▶ Third Thursdays

Following on the success of First Thursdays, the East City area (Roeland, Buitenkant &Harrington Sts) now sees galleries, studios, museums, stores and events stay open after hours for the public to explore every third Thursday of the month, in this avant garde part of the CBD.
Time 17h00-21h00.

Throughout winter

▶ Support local

The Cape Town CBD has numerous wonderful indoor venues to enjoy, and winter is a great time to support our local museums, libraries and art galleries. Family friendly, many of these venues offer special deals during the winter months. Alternatively, pack a picnic on a sunny weekend day and head for The Company's Garden. Catch our special feature on this superb public space and its new developments in the next *City Views*.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Many venues are offering special events to keep the little ones entertained this winter. Here are some of our favourite picks.

▶ Story time at The Book Lounge

If you know of a 3-8 year old who enjoys a good story, every Saturday morning at 11h00 is story time at the Book Lounge independent bookstore (image above). On 7 June, children can hear mermaid stories and find out what these girls with the fishy tails get up to. Then they can colour in and decorate their own mermaids. On 25 June, the venue is holding a "Holiday Crafternoon" at 14h30. Children aged three and older can hear stories about books and all the great adventures they can discover on their pages, after which they can learn how to make their own books to record their own adventures, stories and sketches. RSVP essential. *www.booklounge.co.za, tel 021 462 2425, email booklounge@gmail.com. Cnr Roeland & Buitenkant Sts. Facebook Book Lounge, Twitter Book Lounge.*

28 June- 12 July

▶ The Original Noddy Story

There's plenty of audience participation in this Artscape children's theatre production, deciding whether or not Noddy is a toy. Activities include face painting, colouring in, puzzles, play tents and black bikes to ride before the show.
Artscape Theatre Foyer, D F Malan St, Foreshore. Time TBC (13 shows), tickets R60. www.artscape.co.za, 021 410 9800

THE FUGARD

plays host to a number of events during June & July

6-16 June

▶ Encounters South African International Documentary Festival

It's that time of year again, docu-lovers. Africa's premier documentary event celebrates its 16th anniversary via a showcase of films from around the world, with a particular focus on South African work. This movie festival includes both world and African premieres.
Tickets R50 each, are available from Computicket as well as from the Fugard Theatre Box Office (021 461 4554). www.encounters.co.za

6 July

▶ The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time

A screening of the National Theatre of Great Britain's multiple Olivier Award-winning play.
Time 11h00, cost R100. www.curiousonstage.com.

10-26 July

▶ The Shadow of the Hummingbird Fugard

returns to the stage in his 82nd year, after an absence of 15 years, at the theatre that bears his name. The master playwright takes on the role of Oupa, a retired South African teacher living in self-imposed exile in Southern California. He is joined onstage by Marviantos Baker, playing his grandson Boba.
Tickets R110-R150, from Computicket or the Fugard Theatre's box office (021 461 4554). Fugard Theatre, Caledon St (cnr Harrington St).

GIVE RESPONSIBLY

Help the NGOs that help the homeless and give where it will make a DIFFERENCE

DON'T PROMOTE BEGGING AND LIFE ON THE STREETS

SMS 'GIVE' TO 38088
TO DONATE R10

R10 will be donated from your account, of which on average R8 is donated to the NGO depending on your service provider. For detailed Ts & Cs visit *www.giveresponsibly.co.za*

Straatwerk Job rehabilitation projects for men and women

The Carpenter's Shop Skills training and rehabilitation services for adults

The Haven Night shelters with the vision to get the homeless home

Salesian Institute Projects providing education, skills training and rehabilitation to vulnerable youth

The Homestead Residential care and family integration for boys

Ons Plek Residential care and reunification processes for girls

There a number of wonderful NGOs that work with street people in an attempt to provide them with alternatives to life and making a living on the streets.

What happens when you give money directly to people on the street?

It becomes part of a vicious cycle: even though your intentions are good, giving handouts actually helps people stay on the streets.

Don't promote begging; rather give responsibly instead to the NGOs who help street people and help to break the cycle.

This SMS campaign benefits the six NGOs that work closely with the CCID in the Cape Town CBD. For more information or to obtain open source material to use for a GIVE RESPONSBILY campaign in your own area, please email info@capetowncid.co.za

CCID CAPE TOWN Show you CARE

This campaign is brought to you by the Cape Town Central City Improvement District (CCID)