



TBKCID

First Public Meeting

5 Dec 2024

Minutes

Location: German International School
Date 5th December 2024

IN ATTENDANCE

TBKCID SteerCo : Bevis Hoets (Chair)
Trip Allport
Murray von Hirschberg
Tim Harris
Johan le Roux
Peter de Jong
Simon Campbell-Young (apologies)

Chair: Neil Smith

Guest speaker: Louise Cooke, Camps Bay CID

CID Branch, CCT : Joepie Joubert
David-John Michael-Steyn

CID Central Services: Helen Snell

AGENDA

Welcome
Introduction to a CID
Guest Speaker
Survey results
Business plan
Budget & finance
Next steps
Questions

Welcome: Neil Smith of Brownlow Road, chair, opened the meeting at 18.08. He introduced himself and explained while he has been a Tamboerskloof resident for some 25 years and is supportive of the CID initiative, he is not a member of the Steering Committee and was chairing the meeting in an independent capacity. He covered some house-keeping points and briefly introduced the members of the Steering Committee. Neil handed over to TBKCID Steering Committee Chair Bevis Hoets (BH).

Introduction to a CID: BH outlined the proposed geographic area of the CID, explained the definition of a CID, the key steps to establishing a CID, the motivations for doing so and the key focus areas for CIDs.

Guest Speaker: Louise Cooke, vice chair of Camps Bay CID, kindly shared her experience of establishing and implementing a CID for Camps Bay, the benefits the CID has already delivered in just its first few months and her support for the TBKCID initiative.

Survey Results: Murray von Hirschberg presented a summary of the key results of the UMS conducted earlier this year.

Business Plan: Trip Allport presented the business plan giving details of the proposed initiatives across the four pillars of Public Safety, Maintenance & Cleansing, Environmental Development and Social & Economic Development, as well as the Projects planned. He also outlined how the CID will communicate with its various stakeholders.

Budget & Finance: BH presented the proposed five-year budget on a headline basic and the detail across the core business and projects. He explained how this budget translated to a cost per R1m of municipal property value for properties within the area in the first year. He also compared this cost to some neighbouring CIDs and explained how direct comparisons are not meaningful given differing average municipal property values, numbers of homes and budgets.

Next Steps: BH outlined the next steps to be taken in the process after the presentation concluded.

QUESTIONS

Q: What reassurances can be given regarding the risk of racial profiling happening as a result of the establishment of a more extensive CCTV network?

A: BH clarified that all installed cameras would only be in public spaces and would only monitor public spaces. Joepie Joubert (JJ, CID Branch, CCT) added that the CCTV network would need to be registered with CCT in accordance with its CCTV policy and that this would eradicate any privacy concerns. Helen Snell (HS, CID Central Services) added that cameras are not manually monitored but rather by software which triggers alerts when motion is detected within a certain zone being monitored by a camera. Only then does the controller in the control room view the alert and determine whether the alert is a genuine threat (response dispatched) or a false alarm.

Q: How can residents be sure that CCT, with its own budget under ever-increasing pressure, won't steadily push more of the responsibility for services onto the CID?

A: JJ acknowledged the pressure on CCT's budget, particularly given the influx of people into the Western Cape, but stated that one of the CID's roles is to hold the municipality accountable for the services it is responsible for delivering and, if necessary, the community must ensure the CID does so by close liaison with the councillor. The model has proven successful so far.

Q: Please expand on the structure. Can the entity borrow money? Can it own assets? What is the intention in this regard particularly with respect to cameras?

A: BH confirmed that the NPC can most definitely own assets and in theory could enter into a credit arrangement which one could imagine might be necessary in order to roll out a camera network swiftly in insufficient capex was available in the first year. TBKCID, however, is planning a blended model of leased and owned cameras with the new cameras required in the early days being leased and cameras required to replace those in the existing network when they reach the end of their useful life, being bought.

Qs: Several audience members questioned the rationale for drawing the geographic boundary to exclude the lower section of Tamboerskloof where the density of sectional title is much greater. Concerns were raised that those living in the lower area would benefit from the efforts of the CID without paying for it and whether the Steering Committee had engaged sufficiently with the owners and body corporates of the various apartment blocks.

A: The Steering Committee reiterated several times, as had been stated in the presentation, that extensive efforts had been made to establish what appetite there was from the various apartment blocks to potential be included in a CID and the response was consistently negative given many owners either don't actually live in the property but rent it out and thus are less invested in the local area, or owners are less concerned about safety and beautification of public spaces around them given they live in a block or they may be first time owners or elderly and thus more sensitive to additional costs. This inevitably will create a scenario where some will benefit from the efforts of the CID but not contribute to it financially. But given the additional time which would be required to engage with the substantially larger number of owners in the lower section of Tamboerskloof, and being motivated to establish the CID as quickly as possible given worsening crime trends, the Steering Committee to carve out an area where it believed a CID could achieve the sufficient support without delay. Thereafter, the hope would be that the success of the CID might encourage the rest of Tamboerskloof to seek to expand the boundaries.

Q: What is the process for expanding the boundaries of a CID?

A: David-John Michael-Steyn explained that the process is relatively easy in that a Steering Committee needs to be formed comprising property owners from the area that wishes to join. This committee needs to collaborate with the board of the existing CID. A separate business plan and budget needs to be drawn up for the new area which then follows the same process TBKCID is currently going through. If sufficient support is

gathered in the new area, then the boundaries are expanded but the business plans and budgets would always remain ring-fenced from each other.

Q: Would the Steering Committee be supportive of efforts to uplift Poyser Park in a similar way to the improvements made to St Michael's Road Park in collaboration with community volunteers and potentially local schoolchildren?

A: The Steering Committee confirmed it was absolutely in agreement

Q: What constraints are there on budget increases? Can the Board or even CCT arbitrarily increase the budget?

A: HS explained that the budget for each year of the five-year term is fixed and cannot be changed once established. The amount each property owner pays per R1m of municipal property value will change each year and will vary from changes in the overall CID budget and also in a year when municipal properties are revalued. In year one, the additional CID rate is capped at no more than 25% of the basic rates charged.

Q: Who are the Steering Committee? Why are there no women or non-whites on the committee? Is traffic a concern?

A: BH explained that the Steering Committee is comprised of those people who have come forward to proactively try to improve the area. The door is always open to others who might wish to join but by the time the CID ambition was initiated with CCT, only the core seven members were involved. Subsequently others have come forward including one woman. While the official Steering Committee is now formed, others who want to be involved are always welcome. Traffic is a concern, particularly around the German School and while it is more an issue for the school itself to resolve, if residents are concerned they can engage with the Steering Committee.

Q: What proportion of the public safety budget will be allocated to the mountainside and what proportion to the interior? What proportion to daytime security and what proportion to night?

A: BH answered that it was not as entirely straight forward a split as the question implied and if the lady would like to send an email, more detail could be provided

Q: What option do we have other than to adopt a CID? We could complain that CCT should do more but we need to face the reality of our situation.

A: Steering Committee concurred

The chair closed the meeting at 19.52.