



CITY OF CAPE TOWN
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA
STAD KAAPSTAD

CITY

AREA EAST EDITION
NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF CAPE TOWN

December 2025 / ISSUE 74

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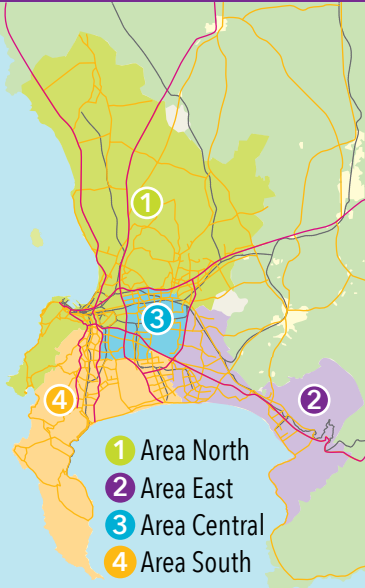
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AREA EAST



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New reserve offers renosterveld and remarkable views: The ribbon has officially been cut on Schapenberg, a newly proclaimed 14 ha reserve in Somerset West, protecting endangered Swartland shale renosterveld on the western slopes of the Schapenberg Hills. Linked to a neighbouring private conservation area, the reserve is home to unique species such as the blue-beard lionface flower and fiery-necked nightjar, showcasing Cape Town's rich biodiversity. With walking routes and sweeping views over False Bay and the surrounding mountain ranges, Schapenberg offers residents a beautiful new space to explore.

Paper bills a thing of the past

From 31 December 2025, the City will send only emailed accounts, with no more bills sent via the post. Please make the switch. Send your account number, contact number and email address to Revenue.Eservices@capetown.gov.za or by SMS to 31223. If you do not have email, the City will find another paperless way to assist. Please phone the call centre on 0860 103 089 or visit your nearest customer interaction centre.

PAPERLESS BILLING

REGISTER BEFORE
31 DEC 2025



City crews geared for fire season

Summer brings a higher risk of fire, so the City's firefighters stand ready to help keep urban, informal and rural communities safe.

The Fire and Rescue Service plays a crucial part in the City's interdepartmental Festive Season Safety Plan. Cape Town's hot, dry and windy summers increase the risk of both vegetation fires and devastating blazes in informal settlements. Over the past few summer seasons, these incidents have increased. Additionally, the Service responds to structural fires, motor vehicle accidents, hazardous material spills and water rescues.

In terms of the Festive Season Safety Plan, fire crews will be on duty 24/7 at all 32 City fire stations to deal with any type of emergency. Aerial firefighting support in the form of two Huey helicopters will be available from 1 December. Other resources include a fixed-wing light spotter aircraft to assist the command and control centre during veld fires, as well as 96 dedicated wildland firefighters, who will be strategically deployed to cover areas prone to runaway vegetation fires.



Report any fires or other risks to life or property to the Public Emergency Communication Centre on 021 480 7700.
For fire safety tips, enter 'Fire safety' in the search box on www.capetown.gov.za.

Prepared to protect: The City's interdepartmental Festive Season Safety Plan is operational, with the Fire and Rescue Service being a key stakeholder to safeguard lives and property during Cape Town's dry and windy summer.

False Bay beaches levelled out again

The City again carried out beach lowering at Fish Hoek, Muizenberg, Gordon's Bay and Bikini beaches. This annual maintenance helps prevent windblown sand from affecting nearby roads and infrastructure once the southeaster starts howling.

Sand is moved from the upper beach to the low-water mark, from where wave action returns the sand to the coastal system naturally. A more level surface means that more of the beach becomes wet during high tides, reducing the risk of sand blowing onto surrounding areas. Beach lowering is environmentally safe and mimics natural coastal processes. It keeps sand in circulation, while protecting infrastructure along the False Bay coastline.

Not coping with your account?

The City has made available more than R5,1 billion in rates and services assistance to qualifying residents. Indigent residents who have previously benefited are encouraged to reapply. Pensioners who have received assistance before will only need to reapply after the General Valuation in 2026. Council has also approved a R2,2 billion initiative that will enable qualifying beneficiaries to have their old City debt written off.

Find out more by phoning the call centre on 0860 103 089 or emailing:

- payment.arrangements@capetown.gov.za for debt write-off;
- rates.rebate@capetown.gov.za for rates rebates; or
- indigent.relief@capetown.gov.za for indigent assistance.

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www.youtube.com/cctecomm

KORTLIKS

Die gevaar van brande verhoog in die somer, en daarom is brandbestryders op gereedheidsgrondslag. Twee Huey-helikopters en 'n vastevlerk-opsporingsvliegtuig sal beskikbaar wees om gedurende veldbrande te help, en 96 toegewyde veldbrandbestryders is ook reg om hand by te sit.

Die Stad het die sand op Vishoek-, Muizenberg-, Gordonsbaai- en Bikinistrand weer gelykgestoot. Hierdie jaarlikse instandhouding sorg dat 'n groter deel van die strand met hoogwater nat word, wat help keer dat die wind nabygeleë infrastruktuur onder sand begrawe.

Die Stad het onlangs sy jongste reservaat, Schapenberg, geopen. Die gebied van 14 ha

in Somerset-Wes is pas as reservaat verklaar en beskerm bedreigde Swartland-skalierenosterveld en ander plant- en dierspesies.

Meer as R5,1 miljard se bystand met eiendomsbelasting en diensgeld is beskikbaar vir kwalifiserende inwoners. Diegene wat voorheen bygestaan is, moet weer aansoek doen.

Die Stad sal vanaf 31 Desember 2025 alle munisipale rekeninge slegs per e-pos stuur, en glad nie meer deur gewone pos nie. Maak seker jy skakel oor na e-posrekening. Stuur jou rekeningnommer, kontaknommer en e-posadres na Revenue. Eservices@capetown.gov.za, of SMS dit na 31223.

KHAWUNDIBALISELE

Njengoko umkhomo wemililo yasehlotyeni ukhula, amaqela abacimimlilo aza kuthi bhalalala imini nobusuku. Iinqwelontaka ezimbini zeHuey ziza kuba zikho zililiso ngelokuncedisa kwimililo yamadlalo. Kuya kuba kukho abacimimlilo abazinikeleyo abangama96 becima imililo yamahlathi.

ISixeko siye sehlisa la manxweme alandelayo iFish Hoek, i Muizenberg, iGordon's Bay neBikini. Oku kulungiswa kwenziwa minyaka yonke kunceda ekuthinteleni isanti ephethethwe ngumoya ingonakalisi iziseko zophuhliso ezikufutshane

Ivulwe ngokusemthethweni ngokusikwa kweribhoni iSchapenberg, indawo yolondolozo ebisandul' ukuchazwa

eziihektare ezili14 eSomerset West, yokulondolozwa iSwartland shale renosterveld nezinye izidalwa.

ISixeko siye sakhupha ngaphezu kweR5,1 bhiliyoni ekuncediseni ngeentlawulo neenkonzo kubahlali abalufaneleyo olo ncedo. Abo bebekhe baxhamla bafanele baphinde bafake izicelo.

Ukususela nge31 kweyoMnga 2025, iSixeko siya kuthumela kuphela iikhawunti ngeimeyili, singasayi kuphinda sithumele amatyala ngeposi. Nceda wenze olo tshintsho. Thumela inombolo yeakhawunti yaho, inombolo yohagamshelelano nedilesi yeimeyili ku Revenue. Eservices@capetown.gov.za okanye ngeSMS ku31223.

Making progress possible. Together.

Eight Blue Flag beaches to choose from

Eight City beaches have again qualified to fly the Blue Flag for the 2025/26 season, running from 1 December to 28 February. They are Bikini Beach, Camps Bay, Clifton 4th, Fish Hoek, Llandudno, Melkbosstrand, Muizenberg and Silverstroomstrand.

First introduced in 2001, Blue Flag status is awarded to beaches that meet high standards of environmental management and education, water quality, safety and services. The accreditation, which includes an international adjudication process, is facilitated by the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA).

Enjoy responsibly

If you'll be heading to our beaches this summer, please be mindful of the golden rules:

- Swim only where and when lifeguards are on duty, sticking to the area between the red-and-yellow flags.
- Beware of rip currents.
- Don't swim while under the influence of alcohol.
- Always actively monitor children in and around water.



Flying the 'flag of fabulous': Fish Hoek is among the eight Cape Town beaches that have secured Blue Flag status this summer, certifying their high standards.

Let's honour Cape Town's icons and heroes

You might recall that, in 2023, we revived the tradition of bestowing Civic Honours on remarkable people who have made our city and the world a better place through their talents and service. I said at the time that this would become a regular occurrence once more, with a Civic Honours ceremony to be held every two years.

We have kept our word. In mid-November, we bestowed Civic Honours on another group of exceptional people, as well as awarded Mayor's Medals to no fewer than 18 individuals and organisations across various categories. This followed an extensive public call for nominees.

But there is another accolade that is even more prestigious and rare – one that hasn't been bestowed in Cape Town for almost a decade – and that is the Freedom of the City. Previous recipients include the late President Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. I am very proud to announce that we will once again be bestowing the Freedom of the City on not one, but two



A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR

exceptional Capetonians.

They are two separate recipients who have each individually contributed greatly to our city's cultural heritage. But they are perhaps best known for the wonderful work they produced together as long-time musical and theatre collaborators. I am speaking, of course, of Cape Town's cultural icons David Kramer and Taliep Petersen. In Taliep's case, the award is made posthumously, and his family will accept

the award on his behalf.

Through iconic musical theatre productions such as *District Six: The Musical* and *Kat and the Kings*, this duo managed to blend social commentary and activism with unmatched musical entertainment, bringing us remarkable Cape Town stories on themes such as forced removals, identity, and community resilience.

I cannot think of two Capetonians more deserving of this honour, and the overwhelming support from Capetonians since we first announced this news has confirmed what an incredibly popular nomination they are. We will bestow the Freedom of the City on David and Taliep at an event at the Grand Parade in January, and I cannot wait to share this joyous occasion with many of you.

They will take their place alongside previous Freedom of the City recipients and titans of history, and will forever be celebrated as Cape Town's finest cultural ambassadors.

Geordin Hill-Lewis
Cape Town Mayor

Collaborating to keep our rivers clean

Thanks to City grant funding, The Litterboom Project has installed eight new litterbooms in rivers across the metro and employed 12 local river wardens to maintain them. These simple yet effective barriers intercept litter before it can flow downstream into the ocean.

As part of its project plan, the non-profit has also expanded its operations to support a circular economy. They take plastic pollution in rivers, sort it, and convert it into raw material for the production of useful items that can be reused or sold. At their Innovation Hub, recyclable plastic is transformed into commodities and everyday household items. The proceeds are reinvested into initiatives to keep waterways clean and sustain local reclaimers.



Got river clearing in the bag: The City-funded Litterboom Project bags the litter intercepted by their litterbooms in a number of Cape Town's rivers every day, as shown here along the Black river. The waste is sorted, and recyclable plastics are converted into valuable goods.

High dam levels, ongoing low power use

The dam levels for Cape Town are sitting at 81,8%. The City is aiming for an overall usage target of 650 million litres per day – which means Capetonians should still try to use less than 105 litres per person per day.

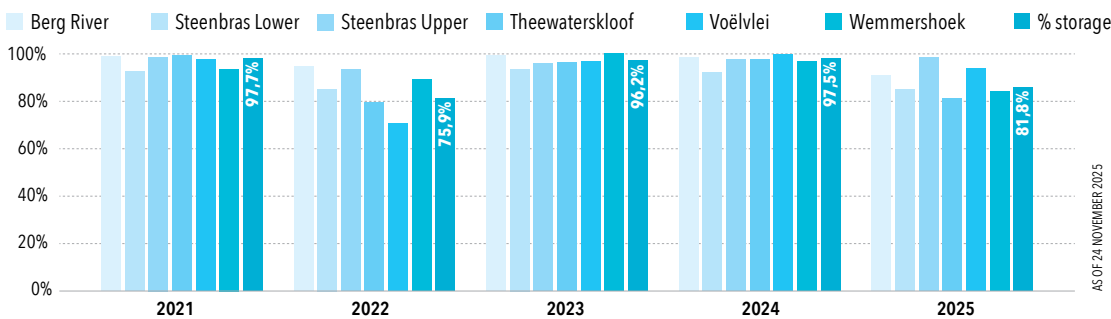
Protect our water resources by following water-wise guidelines. Residents and businesses are reminded that the permanent regulations contained in the City's Water By-law still apply across Cape Town, regardless of the

restriction level.

Municipal water may be used in gardens only before 09:00 or after 18:00, but never to hose down paved areas.

- Visit www.capetown.gov.za/thinkwater or www.capetown.gov.za/waterregulations to access the regulations.

Dam levels - individual dams and total storage - by year



AS OF 24 NOVEMBER 2025

Millions invested in safety at public facilities

The more than 8 000 properties overseen by Community Services and Health are often exposed to social evils such as illegal dumping, theft and vandalism, as well as the impact of violent crime in communities. This affects operations, as it forces the closure of City facilities for the safety of staff and patrons. This is why the City invests hundreds of millions of rands each year in on-site security services and

security hardening measures.

In 2024/25, the City spent R25 million on fencing repairs and maintenance, and nearly R10 million on new fencing, access control gates, alarm systems, roller shutter doors and bulletproof windows at certain clinics. A similar amount has been budgeted for this financial year, along with R389 million in the operational budget for day-to-day security services.



Not on the fence about security: The City makes substantial provision in the budget each year to secure its public facilities, including community centres, libraries and clinics.

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CityNews is distributed as an insert to a number of community papers.

It is also available at City walk-in centres, at City libraries, on PressReader, and at some MyCiTi stations.

If you want it emailed to you, send your email address to citynews@capetown.gov.za.



KORTLIKS

Agt strande onder Stadsbestuur het vir die somerseiisoen weer gesogte blouvlagstatus ontvang. Dit is Bikinistrand, Kampsbaai, Clifton 4de, Vishoek, Llandudno, Melkbosstrand, Muizenberg en Silverstroomstrand.

Die Stad het in November burgerlike eerbewyse aan 'n uitsonderlike groep mense oorhandig, en boonop burgemeestersmedaljes aan nie minder nie as 18 individue en organisasies verleen. Die Vryheid van die Stad, 'n eerbewys wat byna 'n dekade laas verleen is, sal in Januarie aan David Kramer en Taliep Petersen oorhandig word.

Met toelaagfinansiering van die Stad het die Litterboom Project agt nuwe vullisvangers in riviere deur die

hele stad geïnstalleer en 12 plaaslike rivierbewaarders aangestel om dit in stand te hou. Die vullisvangers onderskep rommel voordat dit in die see beland.

Die Stad se begroting maak ruim voorsiening vir veiligheid by openbare fasiliteite. In 2024/25 is R25 miljoen bestee om omheinings te herstel en in stand te hou, en bykans R10 miljoen aan ander veiligheidsinfrastruktuur. 'n Soortgelyke bedrag is vir dié boekjaar opgesig, tesame met R389 miljoen vir daaglikse sekuriteitsdienste.

KHAWUNDIBALISELE

Iilwandle ezisibhozo zeSixeko ziphinde zawongwa ngezinga leBlue Flag kwisithuba sika2025/26. Ezo lwandle yiBikini Beach, Camps Bay, Clifton 4th, Fish Hoek, Llandudno, Melkbosstrand, Muizenberg neSilverstroomstrand.

Siza kunikeza amawonga karhulumente eSixeko kwiqela loluntu olugqwesileyo kananjalo sinikeze newonga leemedali zikaSodolophu kubantu abangexho ngaphantsi kwenani elingu18 nemibutho kananjalo. Elinye iwonga leSixeko elagqityelwa kudala ukunikezwa, elagqityelwa kwishumi leminyaka eyadlulayo eKapa, liya kunikezwa abantu ababini uDavid Karmer noTaliép Petersen.

Ngenxa yenkxasomali yeSixeko, iLitterboom Project ifakele izingxobo zenkunkuma ezisibhozo kwinqi-la yonke yaye yaqesha oonogada bemilambo yeengingqi abali12

ukuba bazimenteyine. Ezi zingxo-bo zifakelwe ukuthintela ukuba inkunkuma ingehli ngomlambo iye kungena elwandle.

ISixeko sibeka imali ethe xhaxhe kwibhajethi yaso ukulungiselela izibonelelo zaso zoluntu. Ngo2024/25, iSixeko sachitha izigidi zeerandi eziyi25 silungisa amacingo okubiyela saphinda sachitha malunga nezigidi ezili10 kwizibonelelo zokhuseleko kwiikliniki ezithile. Kuphinde kwabekwa isixamali esibufana nesi kulo nyakamali kunye neR389 miliyoni yeenkonzo zokhuseleko zamihla yon-ke.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

Help us catch criminals who demand protection money for your projects.

Phone 24/7:
021 480 7700

Anonymous tip-offs. Rewards offered!

LET'S ACT
LET'S STAND TOGETHER

Community helps clean up Soet river

In October, hundreds of volunteers came together in Strand to clean and restore the chronically polluted Soet river, collecting around 4 000 bags of waste. The effort formed part of World Rivers Day and was led by the Soet River Catchment Management Forum, with support from the City and local community organisations.

Cleaning up the Soet river isn't a one-day job, though. Non-profit Oasis Reach for Your Dreams has been at it since August. With City grant funding, Oasis trains marginalised youth and homeless individuals in safe clean-up practices, hosts community awareness sessions, and runs weekly clean-ups. In this way, they not only restore the environment, but also develops skills and enables people to play an active role in their communities.

Help us save the Soet

Residents are urged to care for the Soet river by properly disposing of waste and joining local clean-ups. Lasting change is possible when communities take hands to uplift both themselves and the environment.



River rescue: Thanks to a voluntary community clean-up, thousands of bags of waste were removed from the Soet river in Strand, which is on the receiving end of significant pollution.



Dose of excellence: City Health's pharmacies now use Elula, a digital system that streamlines dispensing and stock control. Patients get shorter waits, and staff benefit from smoother workflows and real-time data. In 2024/25, 37 pharmacists and 77 assistants dispensed R230 million in medication across 70 sites.

New toilets and thousands of plumbing fixes in Khayelitsha

Hundreds of households gain safer, more dignified sanitation as City expands toilet access and repairs

Since July, the City has provided close to 900 households in CT Tshabalala, DT Section, Khunkqu and Quandu Quandu informal settlements in Khayelitsha with access to portable flush toilets (PFTs), ensuring safer and more dignified sanitation. The roll-out complements the existing container, chemical and full-flush toilets provided in informal areas, and is aimed at households living in areas where space or land constraints prevent full-flush installations.

PFTs are serviced four times a week. They offer improved convenience, hygiene and safety, particularly for women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities.

With R44,6 million allocated to deliver 750 taps and 4 000 toilets in 2025/26, the City will continue with full-flush installations for households in Langa, Philippi, Nyanga, Lavender Hill and Imizamo Yethu.



You called for a plumber?

In addition to the roll-out of new toilets, City staffers attended to approximately 1 800 maintenance requests in the area, including toilet cistern repairs, pipe bursts and blockages. To report water and sanitation service issues, call 0860 103 089 send a WhatsApp to 060 018 1505 (pictures accepted), send an SMS to 31373, send an email to water@capetown.gov.za, log your request at www.capetown.gov.za/servicerequests/, or visit a walk-in centre.

Loos, and loads of maintenance:

Noxolo Mxhiki's household in DT Section (left) was one of 900 in Khayelitsha who recently received portable flush toilets. Meanwhile (right), Water and Sanitation staffers attended to 1 790 plumbing maintenance requests in the area.



Khayelitsha now also composting at home: Khayelitsha households have joined the City's growing home composting drive, receiving composting containers to help turn kitchen scraps and garden waste into nutrient-rich compost. Ald Grant Twigg, Mayoral Committee member for Urban Waste Management, helped hand over the composters during the Mayor's recent service blitz in the area. More than 50 000 Cape Town households now form part of the home composting programme. Home composting cuts waste, saves money, contributes to a greener Cape Town, and reduces harmful greenhouse gases by diverting food and garden waste from landfills.

Tafelsig's pump station secure again

The City has acted to protect the Swartklip Road sewer pump station in Tafelsig after illegal electricity connections from nearby Monwabisi Zone 4 caused frequent blockages and overflows, which put the facility and surrounding residents at risk. After discussions with community leaders, the City proceeded to cut the unlawful connections to keep the pump station running safely.

Protect the pump, please?

Residents are urged to help the City look after this facility, as it plays a key role in keeping the Mitchells Plain area clean and safe, which, in turn, builds dignity and improves living conditions for the community.



Time to cut the cord: As illegal electricity connections from Monwabisi Zone 4 were putting the operation of the Swartklip Road sewer pump in danger, the City had to step in to protect its infrastructure and the community's safety. Pictured inspecting the pump station are Lerato Mbuzwa, regional pump station manager, and Cllr Zahid Badroodien, Mayoral Committee member for Water and Sanitation.



Grid-tied and dignified: Formal power connections for nearly 60 households in Greenfields now ensure safer and healthier living conditions for residents.

Greenfields families join the grid

The City invested more than R900 000 in providing 58 households in the Greenfields informal settlement in the Helderberg area with formal power connections. The project is particularly significant, as part of Greenfields was recently affected by fire. City teams have remained in the community to safely reconnect the affected households.

Being grid-tied, families can now light their homes safely and reduce their reliance on candles and paraffin, which pose a fire risk. Learners can study at night, and homes can keep food fresh and appliances running. Moreover, residents benefit from the City's subsidised Lifeline tariff, which includes up to 60 free electricity units per month.

Roadshow gets learners tapped into Cape Town's water future

Water and Sanitation mascot Manzi and a City team visited Grade 6 learners at Lochnershof Primary in Strand as part of an edutainment roadshow that introduces learners to components of the City's New Water Programme in a digestible format.

Since July 2024, 14 schools across town have participated in the roadshow's 45-minute lessons, which combine song, dance and interactive games to teach learners how water can be purified, reused

and conserved. Lessons specifically focus on the use of purified recycled wastewater, desalination, improved river management and invasive alien clearing, and the responsible use of groundwater. In the process, learners start valuing water as a shared and precious resource, and discover the practical ways in which the City is securing Cape Town's water future.

** To book Manzi and the team for a school visit, email communications.waterandsanitation@capetown.gov.za.*



Wising up to water facts: The City's Lorna Maqula teaches learners at Lochnershof Primary about the water cycle.

KORTLIKS

Die Stad het sedert Julie nagenoeg 900 huishoudings in die informele nedersettings CT Tshabalala, DT Section, Khunkqu en Quandu Quandu in Khayelitsha van toegang tot verskuifbare spoeltoilette voorsien.

Honderde vrywilligers het in Oktober in die Strand byeengekom om die chronies besoedelde Soetrivier te help skoonmaak. Hulle het sowat 4 000 sakke vullis uit die rivier verwyder.

Huishoudings in Khayelitsha is nou ook deel van die Stad se tuiskomposveldtog. Inwoners het die nodige houers ontvang om hulle kombuisoorskiet en tuinafval in voedingsryke kompos te omskep. Die komposhouers is gedurende die burgemeester se onlangse dienstebezoek oorhandig.

Water en sanitasie se gelukbringer, Manzi, en 'n span van die Stad het graad 6-leerders by

Laerskool Lochnershof in die Strand besoek as deel van 'n prettige opvoedkundige program om die jong klomp te leer hoe water gesuiwer, weer gebruik en bewaar kan word.

Die Stad het ingegryp om die Swartklipweg-rioolpompstasie in Tafelsig te beskerm. Onwettige elektrisiteitsaansluitings uit die nabygeleë Monwabisi-sone 4 het verstoppings en oorstromings veroorsaak, wat die fasiliteit en inwoners in gevaar gestel het.

Altesaam 58 huishoudings in die informele nedersetting Greenfields is van formele krag aansluitings voorsien. Die projek van meer as R900 000 is veral belangrik omdat Greenfields onlangs deur 'n brand getref is.

Die Stad se apteeknetwerk het 'n digitale resepteer- en voorraadbestuursprogram in werking gestel.

KHAWUNDIBALISELE

Ukususela ngeyeKhala, iSixeko siye sanikezela ngeethoyilethi ezigungxulwayo ezithuthwa lula kumakhaya amalunga ne900 kumatyotyombe aseCT Tshabalala, eDT Section, eKhunkqu naseQuandu Quandu eKhayelitsha.

KweyeDwarha, amakhulukhulu amatshantliziyo eStrand aye acoca aze abuyisela kwimeko entle umlambo iSoet ongcoliseke ngendlela engathethekiyo, beqokelela malunga neengxowa zenkunkuma ezimalunga nama4 000.

Abahlali baseKhayelitsha baye bazibandakanye nephulo leSixeko elikhulayo lokwenza umgquba ekhaya befumana iinkonkxa zokutshintsha ukutya okulahlwayo nenkunkuma esuka egadini ibe ngumgquba otyebileyo ngezondlo. Ezi zixhobo zokwenza umgquba ziye zakhutshwa ebudeni bephulo likaSodolophu lakutshanje lokuhambisa iinkonzo kulo mmandla.

Iphulo laManzi noGutyulo, iManzi kunye neqela leSixeko baye batyelela abafundi beBakala 6 baseLochnershof Primary eStrand njengenxalenye yephulo lokuzonwabisa elifundisayo

ngelokufundisa abafundi ngendlela amanzi anokucocwa, aphinde asetyenziswe aze alondolozwe ngayo.

ISixeko siye sathatha inyathelo lokukhusela iziko elinempompo yogutyulo lwelindle eSwartklip Road eTafelsig emva kokokomezelo lombane olungekho mthethweni lweMonwabisi Zone 4 olubangele ukuminxeka nokuphuphuma, nto leyo ebeke eli ziko kunye nabahlali engozini.

ISixeko siye satyala imali engaphezu kweR900 000 ekunikezeleni ngezindlu ezingama58 kumatyotyombe aseGreenfields saza sazifakela umbane osemgangathweni. Eli phulo libaluleke kakhulu, njengoko inxalenye yeGreenfields ibisandul' ukuthwaxwa ngumliolo.

Inethwekhi yeehemesti zezempilo eSixekweni iye yaqalisa inkqubo yedijithali yokukhupha amayeza nenkqubo yokulawula istokhwe.



Sewer network under siege

In 2024/25, the City had to fix nearly 1 300 sewer blockages in Wallacedene and around 550 in Bloekombos. At least half of all blockages were caused by foreign objects such as rags, rubble, nappies, tyres and other waste being dumped or flushed into the sewer system.

Bloekombos, Wallacedene and Scottsdene have been prioritised for sewer pipe replacements in 2025/26 as part of the City's R355 million investment in infrastructure upgrades. Yet to reduce blockages, residents need to use the network responsibly. This is why the City has been raising awareness in local communities about safe sewer practices, namely:

- flushing only human waste and toilet paper;
- using the City's official solid waste and drop-off services; and
- reporting blockages or vandalism.

Shoo wee, this sewer's taking strain! A City sewer maintenance crew clears another blockage in Bloekombos.



Big birthdays for two City libraries
Somerset West and Rocklands libraries collectively clock up 105 years

In October, both Somerset West and Rocklands libraries marked milestone birthdays.

Somerset West library celebrated 60 years of serving the community from its Victoria Street location. The library service itself is already 128 years old. Over the decades in Victoria Street, the library has added children's spaces and an Africana room, and modernised its facilities. Today, it is one of the three top-performing City libraries, enrolling over 100 new members each month.

Rocklands library, in turn, turned 45. The library offers a range of programmes for young patrons, including reading, coding and chess. In fact, they recently delivered the overall winner of the Chess@Librariess competition,

Kaden Michaels. Rocklands has earned several awards over the years, including for most involved community library and best youth services.

Keeping with the times

Aside from books, both libraries also provide access to digital resources, including e-books, audiobooks and more than 7 000 newspapers and magazines through PressReader, Libby and Overdrive. Explore the online catalogue at <https://opac.capetown.gov.za>.

Decades of delighting readers: With over a century of service between them, Somerset West and Rocklands libraries keep unlocking the world of information and knowledge for their patrons.



New MyCiTi depots done and dusted

The City has completed two new MyCiTi bus depots in Spine Road, between Khayelitsha and Mitchells Plain, marking a major milestone in the MyCiTi metro southeast expansion. Covering 7,5 ha each, the depots can currently house up to 145 buses, with future capacity for 250 per depot. They are fully equipped with mechanical workshops, refuelling and electric-bus charging facilities, automated bus cleaning, and driver amenities. Construction generated employment for around 500 residents and 46 local subcontractors.

Creating connections

The depots are part of a string of infrastructure projects to support the service expansion, including new bridges, bus lanes, traffic upgrades, and pedestrian and cycling facilities. The R10 billion metro southeast project, creating MyCiTi routes that link Khayelitsha and Mitchells Plain to Wynberg and Claremont, is South Africa's largest metro-led public transport project to date.



Transforming travel: Mayor Geordin Hill-Lewis and Cllr Rob Quintas, Mayoral Committee member for Urban Mobility, pictured with managers of the Urban Mobility Directorate at the new bus depots in Spine Road. The depots will be used by the MyCiTi bus fleet once the routes between Mitchells Plain, Khayelitsha, Claremont and Wynberg become operational.



Life can be stranger than fiction: After believing her wedding album was lost forever, Tania Manuel was thrilled to have it returned by Strandfontein library's Hawa Williams, who uncovered it during a library clean-up. Staff pieced together clues by sharing photos with patrons, one of whom recognised the church and remembered the couple's names. This helped the library trace Nico Manuel, who passed the news to his bride. More than two decades later, the couple were joyfully reunited with their long-lost wedding memories, with Tania leaving a heartfelt message in the library's visitor's book.

KORTLIKS

In Oktober is daar groot verjaardag gehou by die biblioteke in sowel Somerset-Wes as Rocklands. Somerset-Wes-biblioteek het 60 jaar in hulle huidige fasiliteit gevier, en Rocklands-biblioteek het 45 jaar oud geword.

Die Stad moes in 2024/25 byna 1 300 riool-verstopings in Wallacedene en sowat 550 in Bloekombos hanteer. Minstens die helfte van alle verstopings was as gevolg van vreemde voorwerpe soos lappe, bourommel, babadoeke, buitebande en ander afval wat in die rioolstelsel gestort of afgespoel is.

In 'n groot mylpaal vir die MyCiTi-uitbreiding na die suidooste van die metro het die Stad twee nuwe MyCiTi-busdepots in Spineweg tussen Khayelitsha en Mitchells Plain voltooi. Die depots beslaan elk 7,5 ha en het tans plek vir tot 145 busse, wat in die toekoms tot 250 busse per depot verhoog kan word.

Nadat sy jare lank geglo het haar trou-album is vir ewig weg was Tania Manuel in die wolke toe personeel van Strandfontein-biblioteek dit onlangs aan haar terugbesorg het. Hulle het gedurende 'n opruiming van die biblioteek op die album afgekom.

KHAWUNDIBALISELE

NgeyeDwarha, ilayibrari yaseSomerset West neyaseRocklands ziye zaphawula imihla yokuzalwa eyimbali. Ilayibrari yaseSomerset West iye yabhiyozela iminyaka engama60 yaza ilayibrari yaseRocklands yona yabhiyozela engama45.

Ngo2024/25, iSixeko kuye kwafuneka silungise ukuminxeka kwenkqubo yogutyulo lwelindle okumalunga ne1 300 eWallacedene nokumalunga ne550 eBloekombos. Ubuncinane isiqingatha soku kuminxeka kubangelwe zizinto ebezingamele zigungxulelwe ezinjengamalaphu, ingqushu, amanapkeni, amatayara nanye inkunkuma elahlwa okanye egungxulelwa kwinkqubo yogutyulo lwelindle.

ISixeko siye sagqiba iidepho ezimbini ezintsha zeebhasi zeMyCiTi eSpine Road, phakathi kweKhayelitsha neMitchells Plain, nto leyo enegalelo elingathethekiyo kulwandiso lomzantsimpuma wemetro yeMyCiTi.

Njengoko nganye kuzo iziihektare ezisi7,5, okwangoku ezi dephe zifaka iibhasi ezili145, yaye kwixesha elizayo ziza kufaka iibhasi ezingama250 kwidepho nganye.

Emva kokucinga ukuba ialbham yakhe yomtshato ilahleke ngokupheleleyo, uTania Manuel uvuye ngendlela engathethekiyo xa eyibuyiselwa nguHawa Williams weLayibrari yaseStrandfontein, oyivumbulule xa bekucocwa kule layibrari.

CITY OF CAPE TOWN AND AREA EAST CONTACT DETAILS

Accounts and general enquiries
Tel 0860 103 089 (option 1)
Fax 0860 103 090
Email accounts@capetown.gov.za
..... contact.us@capetown.gov.za

Alcohol and drug helpline (24/7)
Tel 0800 HELP 4 U (0800 435 748)

Anti-corruption and fraud hotline
Tel (anonymous, toll-free) . . 0800 323 130

Cable theft
All-hours tel 0800 222 771

Public transport (toll-free)
Information centre. 0800 656 463
Dial-a-Ride 0800 600 895

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Tel 021 400 2358
Cape Town Civic Centre, 12 Hertzog Boulevard, Cape Town

Subcouncil 8
Tel 021 850 4150
Municipal offices, cnr Fagan Street and Main Road, Strand

Subcouncil 9
Tel 021 444 3715
Site B Khayelitsha Shopping Centre, Khayelitsha

Subcouncil 10
Tel 021 444 0196
Khayelitsha Training Centre, cnr Lwandle Road and Phendula Crescent, Khayelitsha

Subcouncil 14
Tel 021 400 2345
Municipal offices, cnr Van Riebeeck Road and Carinus Street, Kuils River

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