

form), and this in turn will determine each property owner's monthly contribution.

Responsesshowcrimecontrolandtrafficmanagement/ street maintenance are high on the agenda. There is also interest in town gas - this is being followed up. We'll give you a fuller breakdown next month.

Another **public participation meeting will be held in August** to discuss the improvement plan and proposed monthly costs. We'll let you know the date and time.

For now:

- Please complete the **survey form** if you haven't yet done so.
- Please send Wendy McAllister **your email address** if you don't receive our regular electronic newsletter. All you need to do is put your name and street address in the subject line [eg Sam and Joan Smith 156 Northumberland] and we'll get back to you. (wendym@creativecoms.co.za)

Who to contact

We welcome two new members to the exec, Karen Hoffa and Kirsty Falkenberg. For who to contact, please see details on the reverse of the Statement of Account for 2008 subscriptions.

VACANT PORTFOLIOS:

Chairperson/Membership/Secretary & co-ordinator/ Security

PLUS - we have a number of finite or ongoing smaller projects where we need help - a little of your time will make a big difference!

Thanks to residents who are assisting with:

Domestic Watch (Kerryn Lawson, 082 452 7962)

attending CPF meetings (Alka Larkin - 083 267 9102, and Lourens Malan - 082 670 4935)

pavement monitoring, Craighall (Fiona Reynolds - 082 448 6626)

Security Scheme debit order management (Fran and Bill Haslam).



Contact an exec member if you would like to assist in some way and help share the load.

JUNE 2008

URGENT SECURITY INFORMATION

IMPORTANT COMMUNITY UPDATES

Please read this carefully as there are some important issues being addressed -

- a new security scheme - the Public Spaces Security (PSS) scheme (*not to be confused with your personal armed response contract which is quite separate*)
- progress with the CID (City/Community Improvement District)

Don't forget!

- Domestic Watch - the last Friday of each month at the Wesleyan Church, Norfolk Ave. Next one: 27 June at 12:00.
- River market - every second Saturday morning next to Colourful Splendour nursery. Next one: 28 June.
- More volunteers needed for SAPS patrols - contact Philip or Vanessa Bond.
- **An urgent appeal** - please pay your 2008 subs! We are trying to fit in so much this year that without your financial support, we will achieve less.

A new Security Scheme – PSS

Assuming the establishment of a City/Community Improvement District (CID), and from the responses to the survey form* distributed to all residents, there is an overwhelming majority indicating that the one thing they would like to change is the high level of crime. Given this mandate, the CID Steering Committee (CID SC) invited four security companies to put forward their proposals for the effective security and surveillance of our streets and public spaces. [Note: unfortunately SAS Top Security did not attend.]

* Please see more under 'CID update'.

What's been done

1. The CID SC evaluation team decided that CSS Tactical offered the best solution, noting that suburbs where CSS Tactical operates (eg Dunkeld) have reported a dramatic decrease in crime levels. This choice has the added advantage of dovetailing with an initiative by a group of residents, now being driven by Simonne Mungle.
2. The CID SC visited CSS Tactical's premises and observed its camera-monitoring methodology. We acknowledged that our area is very porous, with some 20 exit points on to major thoroughfares and other suburbs. We agreed that an on-the-ground presence needed to be backed up with the smart use of technology.
3. CSS Tactical has submitted a '*neighbourhood partnership proposal*' which offers:
 - Four 24x7 proactive patrol vehicles, each manned by two highly trained personnel able to deal with untoward situations. Their activities and services will include:
 - looking out for any suspicious activity, or people loitering within the area;
 - questioning any person regarded as suspicious;
 - looking out for and stopping any persons littering any public space area;
 - checking construction sites after hours to ensure there is no one sleeping there without the required permission;
 - removing any street vendor who is not authorised by the CRA to be in the area;
 - regular river patrols.
 - Cameras positioned at strategic points within the suburb, linked directly to the CSS Tactical National Operations Centre (NOC). Vehicles cannot be everywhere at once - but cameras can!
 - Alert It Facility - Residents who are signed up to the scheme will be able to call the NOC 24 hours a day. Subscribers will also have access to a panic button on their cell phone linked to the NOC.
 - Medical response.

Implementation and costs of the Public Space Security Scheme

A minimum of 500 residents/businesses need to sign up before the scheme can start. This number will reduce if more businesses join the PSS scheme and/or sponsor one or more cameras.

The cost is higher than the present Community Security Scheme using ADT. The fact, though, that despite ongoing notices about the Scheme, there have been almost no new subscribers in recent months, indicating that our community wants something different. In fairness, ADT has recently put more resources into our area at its expense and has informed the CRA that it is gearing up for significantly more pro-active measures. Conversely, the feedback to the CRA has been that this is "too little, too late."

Costs for the new scheme are:

Per individual household: R385 + R10 (for debit order processing/bank charges) per month.

Per sectional title: R85 per unit. (Complexes which signed up on behalf of all their residents will be contacted shortly.)

Business: From R395, depending on the size and nature of the business.

With the formation of a CID, the cost per household will reduce to R285pm.

And now it's over to you... street reps will be visiting you and giving you a sign-up/debit order form. We also intend to have it on-line as soon as possible keep checking www.cra.org.za.

A public meeting is to be held on **25 June 2008 at 18:00** at Craighall Primary School to give you more information and answer your queries.

A last comment - we know that in our suburbs live people of varying means, many of whom are concerned about rising costs... but ask anyone affected by crime what it costs then.

Let's keep out criminals before they get to our gates.

CID update

From survey forms received to date, 97% of respondents have indicated that they support in principle the formation of a CID.

If you haven't yet completed the form, it really is important to do so. It's on line (www.cra.org.za/cid_main.htm) or call Bianca, Sarah or Amy to get one - contact details overleaf.

Next steps

The CID Steering Committee is working on an improvement (business) plan. What goes into the plan largely depends on what the community wants done (hence the importance of receiving your survey