



**Good day, Park Islanders!**

The abundant rains this winter have been a gardener's delight, even though it meant scheduling our activities around the weather forecast. Our volunteers have been, and continue to be, busy in many areas, developing not only our Public Open Spaces, but also road verges and pedestrian lanes.

Our major project this winter has been the Strandveld planting in Thibault Park. Directed by Fynbos Life, we planted 800 plants along the bank of the Michell Canal. We are hopeful that watering over the first summer will not be necessary, as the soil is already damp due to its proximity to the water. By next winter, the plants should be at a similar stage to the plants in the entrance garden, which were planted at this time last year. Here are some shots of the preparation and the community plant





The Thibault Park team took advantage of the City Council's 'Adopt a Tree' program. Six Waterberry and six Milkwood trees were donated and delivered by CoCT. The Marina Gardeners planted the trees in the Thibault and Michell Parks. These trees will need to be watered during the dry summer months until mature, and will be trimmed to become shade trees.



Tree Planting in Thibault Park



Another 160 plants were planted in the extended area around the playpark where we had previously laid mulch, adding variety to the existing beds.

We had a surplus of plants from the Thibault planting, so the De Lille Team planted 120 Strandveld plants in De Lille Square, once again supervised by Fynbos Life. De Lille Square is a new project that will be developed further next winter.

Other areas that benefited from the surplus of plants from Thibault, as well as donated plants, were the approach to the Eastlake bridge in Park Island and the verges opposite the guard hut. The Friends of Park Island were donors of vygies for ground cover.

The Marina Gardeners are an important asset in managing the POS in our area. Funded by MDGA, the focus is on POS maintenance, like housework; it is never done! The current contract has been in place for 4 years. ExCom will review the program later this year to address a few issues that have arisen, but the fundamentals will remain.

We have identified an issue of pedestrian safety at the Park Island Way entrance and T'Wagen. Our solution is to build pedestrian sidewalks, preferably in asphalt, and to add steps and a ramp onto Michell Park at the Michell Park end of the T'wagen bridge. Lathif Gafoor is assisting in our approach to CoCT. See the attached diagram of the suggested sidewalks and steps.



Proposed asphalt pedestrian sidewalks

We continue to have bylaw transgressions in our POS, but at a very reduced level. Assisted by our security providers, we are confident that bylaw transgressions will continue to decline.

**If you have any photos to share of our beautiful Marina and Park Island that we can use in our newsletters and on the website, please do share them with us!** Drop us an email and we will share the Google Drive Folder with you.

And finally, please feel free to contact us with any suggestions or comments at our email address: [parkislandcid@gmail.com](mailto:parkislandcid@gmail.com).

**Thank you for your continued support!**

Kind regards,

Your PICID Committee