



5 YEARS. 9 SEATS. ONE JOB.

GOOD COUNCILLORS IN THE CITY OF CAPE TOWN

A Public Record, 2021-2026



A record of council oversight, service and accountability work, this document outlines the GOOD Party's five-year record in the City of Cape Town Council from 2021 to 2026. It compiles council questions, motions, litigation, and public campaigns used by GOOD's nine councillors to scrutinize the DA-led administration's financial decisions, service delivery, and governance. Key actions include challenging electricity tariff increases above NERSA guidelines, pursuing court action against unlawful municipal charges, and highlighting housing and infrastructure backlogs.

R42.3m

irregular spending
quantified by the SIU
on Strandfontein

69

properties auctioned
since 2021. We moved
to stop it.

R9.7bn

infrastructure
question. No written
response after 12
months.

8 yrs

with no Affordable
Housing Policy.

1

only party in the
tariffs court case.
We won.

Since the November 2021 local government elections, GOOD councillors in the City of Cape Town have used the tools available to opposition councillors - council questions, motions, portfolio committee engagement, public campaigns and media statements - to scrutinise the DA-run City's conduct and spending, and to press for spatial and service-delivery justice for residents. This document collects, by theme, verifiable examples of that record drawn from primary council documents, independent media coverage, and GOOD's own published council statements. Each entry is tagged with its source, and outcomes are stated as documented -including where a motion was rejected, defeated, or never answered - so the record stays accurate rather than one-sided.

A five-year throughline: read together, these entries point to a consistent set of fights -affordable, transparent budgets instead of hidden fee hikes; public land preserved for public good rather than quietly disposed of; a Mayor and administration answerable to Council and residents rather than shielded from scrutiny; reasonable and proportionate enforcement; and housing built on justice and fairness, from restitution and social-housing protections to the affordable housing policy the DA has delayed for eight years.

1.

FINANCIAL AND RATEPAYER ACCOUNTABILITY

- Following a 2020 GOOD complaint to the Special Investigating Unit over the City's procurement for the Strandfontein temporary homeless shelter (R52.8m), the SIU's December 2021 final report found the procurement process irregular and quantified R42,293,285 in irregular expenditure; a council question in 2023 asked the Mayor to confirm whether officials would face discipline and whether the DA-run City would recover the profiteering. Outcome: answered, but without commitment - the Mayor's written reply said the DA-run City had received only a 3-paragraph summary from the SIU, that six requests for the full report went unanswered, and that the SIU had sent only an invoice for its costs, which the DA-run City refused to pay.

[Council question C40/04/23 and Mayor's reply, 26 Apr 2023 (Cllr Little)]



The failure by the CoCT to follow a proper procurement process resulted in the incurrence of irregular expenditure in the amount of R42,293,285 ... the service provider profited excessively to the detriment of the CoCT."

SIU final report finding, cited in Council question C40/04/23, 26 April 2023 (Cllr Little)



- Opposed the DA-run City's drawdown of an unsolicited R1.8 billion loan from a French bank, arguing it was reckless lending under the MFMA since no capital projects had been identified for it, the City held R8 billion cash at the time, and the required 21-day public information statement had not been published; after the DA's majority approved it, opposed it again three months later when currency fluctuation increased the euro-denominated debt to R116 million above the rand value approved, arguing the loan breached MFMA section 47's requirement that municipal debt be rand-denominated and not exposed to foreign-currency risk.

[Council speeches, 26 Apr & 27 Jul 2023 (Cllr Little)]



"This loan obtained from the French Bank is unlawful from the start and must be considered as reckless lending ... the ultimate violation is that of the MFMA section 47 ... they clearly ignored National Treasury and borrowed 100 million euros and did not borrow in Rand, and now we sit with an increased loan of R116 million."

Council speech, 27 July 2023 (Cllr Suzette Little)



- At the December 2021 council sitting, flagged that the DA-run City had already over-recovered R135 million in water and electricity revenue against the 2021/22 budget and called for a moratorium on using prepaid electricity sales to recover outstanding municipal debt from indigent households.

IGOOD statement, forgood.org.za

- Two years later, in a mid-year budget speech, flagged a further R244 million over-recovery on service charges (R71m electricity, R190m water, R178m interest, against a R193m under-recovery on bulk electricity purchases), arguing the pattern showed the City choosing to sit on a healthy bank balance rather than spend on basic services such as waste collection.

[Council speech, 30 Jan 2024 (Cllr Little)]

- Publicly documented that the City of Cape Town charged electricity tariffs above the NERSA-approved guideline in both 2022/23 (9.6% charged vs 7.47% approved) and 2023/24 (17.6% charged vs 15.1% approved), commissioned an independent calculation putting the resulting overcharge at roughly R330 million for 2022/23 alone, and publicly challenged the Mayor to an open debate on the issue. A direct request for an urgent special debate on the tariffs (citing Rules 6.6, 6.7 and 18.1) was rebuffed by the Mayor's office, which directed GOOD to follow the standard Rule 18.1.1 motion process instead.

IGOOD statement (open letter, Cllr Anton Louw), forgood.org.za; request for special debate and Mayor's reply, Jul 2024 (Cllr Cupido)]



KEY FACT: ELECTRICITY TARIFFS ABOVE THE NATIONAL REGULATOR'S GUIDELINE

NERSA, the national electricity regulator, set guideline increases of 7.47% for 2022/23 and 15.1% for 2023/24. The DA-run City charged 9.6% and 17.6%. An independent calculation commissioned by GOOD put the 2022/23 overcharge at roughly R330 million. GOOD publicly challenged the Mayor to an open debate. Its request for an urgent special debate (Rules 6.6, 6.7 and 18.1) was rebuffed by the Mayor's office, which pointed GOOD to the standard Rule 18.1.1 motion process.

IGOOD statement (open letter, Cllr Anton Louw), forgood.org.za; request for special debate and Mayor's reply, Jul 2024 (Cllr Cupido)]



- Opposed the DA-run City's 2026/27 mid-year budget adjustments in a council speech, describing elements of the adjustment budget as inconsistent with the DA-run City's stated priorities for residents.

IGOOD statement (Cllr Chad Davids), forgood.org.za

- Questioned the Mayor on the R9.7 billion in infrastructure spending announced for 2024, asking for a full breakdown by directorate, project and ward (including Wesbank, Kalkfontein, Eerste River, Nomzamo and Samora Machel) and the drawdown status of foreign loans funding it (French Development Bank R1.948bn, Nedbank R3.5bn, IFC R2.8bn, KfW R2.922bn). Outcome: no written response documented after roughly 12 months, at which point the question was resubmitted with an added question on a R528.8m adjustment-budget interest allocation - raising a live compliance concern, since Council's own Rules require unanswered questions to automatically return to the agenda after 60 days.

[Council question, 8 Jan 2025, resubmitted 4 Feb 2026 (Cllr Little)]

- Questioned the Mayor on Department of Labour contravention notices issued against the City's Water and Sanitation treatment plants and pump stations for occupational health and safety non-compliance, asking whether the notices had been complied with, whether prosecution notices had followed, and why the underlying incompetency had not been reported to the City Manager or Council.

Outcome: the Speaker's office rejected the initial October 2024 submission as one day late under Rule 22.1's 15-working-day deadline; the identical question was resubmitted by Cllr Neumann on 30 May 2025, with no written response documented since.

[Council question, 3 Oct 2024 (Cllr Little); Speaker's office rejection, 16 Oct 2024; resubmitted 30 May 2025 (Cllr Neumann)]

- Moved that the DA-run City's Fixed Basic Water Charge - introduced during the drought and ranging from R87.29 to R243.15 depending on connection size - be withdrawn as an unsustainable burden on indigent residents, with a plan to terminate it and a cost-saving review instead. Outcome: rejected on a DA/ANC vote. Separately, on 30 April 2026 the Western Cape High Court declared the DA-run City's 2025/26 fixed charges unlawful - a distinct outcome reached through litigation rather than this motion.

[Jul 2024 (Cllr Bengé, seconded Cllr Davids); vote outcome reported Nov 2024 (IOL); WC High Court ruling, 30 Apr 2026]

"As the GOOD Party we call on the City of Cape Town Council to agree that: 1. The Fixed Basic Charges be withdrawn; 2. Finance and Water department plan for the termination of the charge in time for the next budget... 5. To immediately amend all policies relating to the Fixed Basic Charge and have it deleted."

From the motion text, 11 July 2024 (Cllr Lulama Bengé, seconded Cllr Chad Davids)

- Following the High Court's ruling that the DA-run City's fixed cleaning/water/sanitation charges were unlawful, moved for a personal-liability investigation into responsible office-bearers, independent legal advice on section 32 of the MFMA, 14-day public disclosure of the DA-run City's legal costs and exposure, and public access to related reports. Outcome: missed the council deadline for the item.

[Motion of exigency, 13 May 2026 (Cllr Little, seconded Cllr Cupido)]

- Challenged the DA-run City's roughly R1 billion municipal debt write-off as misleading, arguing that if a resident misses a single payment the full debt (with interest and VAT) is reinstated, that properties valued at R2.5–R7 million qualify for a 50% write-off under the scheme, and that of 186,520 registered indigent households only 28,131 accounts were being written off - while residents in BNG housing were separately being billed for water usage the City itself had failed to monitor.

[Council speech, Jun 2025 (Cllr Little)]

"Which poor person lives in a R2.5 million or R7 million house? ... If you're unable to maintain your payments you'll be right back where you started because no one took the time to do a proper assessment of the situation. This isn't compassion. It's punishment dressed up as policy."

Council speech, June 2025 (Cllr Suzette Little)

- Lodged a formal written complaint (30 July 2025) that the DA-run City's R2.1 billion foreign loan from the French development bank Agence Française de Développement (AFD) was approved without a clear list of capital projects, in breach of section 46(1)(a) of the MFMA, and reported the matter to the Auditor-General of South Africa requesting an investigation into whether it constitutes unauthorised, irregular, fruitless or wasteful expenditure; the AGSA acknowledged receipt and referred it internally. Outcome: as of the material available, the matter had not been tabled before Council or referred to MPAC, and no internal or independent investigation had been confirmed.

[GOOD statement, forgood.org.za, Oct 2025; AGSA acknowledgement, Jul 2025]

"This matter is not political point-scoring, it is a question of compliance with national legislation, protection of the City's finances, and transparency to residents who ultimately foot the bill."

GOOD statement on the AFD loan, forgood.org.za, Oct 2025

- Challenged the DA-run City's 2026/27 Budget and 2025 General Valuation, arguing that the advertised 10.2% property-rates reduction did not reflect the real impact on households once the roughly 17.2% average residential valuation increase and revised rebates were factored in. After the High Court's tariff ruling, challenged the City's revised budget model - including shifting cleaning costs back onto property rates - as a repackaging of costs rather than genuine relief, and raised concerns that residents were not given sufficiently clear information on their total municipal-bill impact during public participation.

[GOOD statements, forgood.org.za, 17 Apr–21 Jun 2026 (Cllr Sandra Dickson); independently reported, EWN, 22 May 2026]

“The much-publicised 10.2% property rates reduction was never a genuine relief for residents.”
GOOD statement, forgood.org.za, 22 May 2026 (Cllr Sandra Dickson); independently, EWN reported “GOOD party councillor Sandra Dickson argued the city is simply repackaging costs,” 22 May 2026

- In a council speech on the March 2026 Adjustment Budget, challenged the DA-run City's accumulation of roughly R21 billion in cash reserves (R7.76bn highly liquid) while housing projects stalled - including a R30.6 million ISUPG grant cut after the City failed to approve its own building plans in time, and delays at the Sheffield Road, Gugulethu Infill, Valhalla Park, Macassar BNG and Pelican Park Phase 2 housing projects - contrasting this with fast-tracked MyCiTi transport projects.

[Council speech, 31 Mar 2026 (Cllr Sandra Dickson)]

“The City of Cape Town is currently in a state of ‘Financial Obesity.’ It is cash-rich but delivery-poor ... We don’t have a budget crisis. We have a willingness and capability crisis wrapped in the massive R7.76 billion cash cushion.”
Council speech, 31 March 2026 (Cllr Sandra Dickson)

- In an ordinary council speech on the City's annual audit outcome, distinguished an unqualified audit opinion from a genuinely clean audit, and linked persistent procurement and contract-management weaknesses directly to service-delivery failures on the ground.

[Council speech, 20 Aug 2026 (Cllr Siyabulela Mamkeli)]

- Opposed the DA-run City's move to sell the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC) - which had contributed R53.2 billion to national GDP and R45.2 billion to the Western Cape economy by 2021 - questioning the City's total historical investment in the asset, who commissioned and verified the R800 million sale valuation, the identity of prospective investors and their conflict-of-interest declarations, and why a revenue-generating public asset was being sold off rather than used to ease tariff pressure on residents.

[Council speech, May 2026 (Cllr Little)]

“R45.2 billion contributed to this province - and yet the DA stands here today wanting to sell it ... the DA is selling off the family heirlooms while you sleep. Assets built over decades with your rates, your taxes, and your trust are being quietly disposed of at reduced prices, with no transparency on who benefits, and no mandate from the people who own them.”
Council speech, May 2026 (Cllr Suzette Little)

2.

BY-LAWS AND COMMUNITY LIFE

- Moved an amendment to the Streets, Public Places and Prevention of Noise Nuisance By-Law to exempt lawful places of worship from noise-nuisance rules for the call to prayer, church bells and singing, after a 2019 complaint against the Zeenatul Mosque's Athaan in District Six went unresolved. Outcome: the City Manager referred the motion to the Safety and Security Portfolio Committee rather than full Council, which GOOD publicly argued a Portfolio Committee has no power to do for a by-law; the substantive complaint was ultimately addressed administratively when the Mayor announced a new exemption procedure in April 2022, without the motion's own text being formally adopted by Council.

[Council motion, 30 Mar 2022 (Cllr Little, seconded Cllr Cupido); CM referral, 19 Apr 2022; Mayoral SOP announcement reported Apr 2022]



"Places of worship, such as churches and mosques, operating lawfully in terms of the Cape Town Planning By-Law and its Zoning Scheme, shall be exempted from the provisions of the Western Cape Noise Control Regulations and from the provisions of this by-law, for the purposes of religious sounds of calls to prayer, ringing of bells and singing."

Proposed section 3(c), motion text, 30 March 2022 (Cllr Suzette Little, seconded Cllr Jonathan Cupido)



- In a council speech opposing the Outdoor Advertising By-law, raised that City Law Enforcement had fined and threatened Bo-Kaap residents over the weekend of 25–26 November 2023 for displaying signage and flags in support of Palestine - including at the switching-on of the Bo-Kaap lights - that the DA-run City had denied any such enforcement action at the time, and that the by-law was then tabled before Council on the very next sitting, only days after the enforcement took place. Questioned why residents were not made aware of the by-law despite a claimed 2021 public participation process, and whether its flag exemption (for "National flags" without commercial advertising) would be applied evenly or would in practice single out one flag for removal.

[Council speech, 6 Dec 2023 (Cllr Little)]



"Residents of the Bokaap were threatened by Law Enforcement with fines for displaying signage outside their homes in support of Palestine, we also witnessed residents attending the switching on of the lights being fined for carrying the Palestinian flag. All of this was denied by the City, however, Monday morning the Outdoor Advertising By-law appeared ready to go to council ... It appears that Law enforcement jumped the gun over the weekend as this by-law is only being tabled today."

Council speech, 6 December 2023 (Cllr Suzette Little)



- Formally moved that the City draft, adopt and implement a Public Participation Policy, promulgate a supporting by-law, and produce a Standard Operating Procedure for community participation, grounded in section 152(1)(e) of the Constitution and section 17 of the Municipal Systems Act, after the DA-run City confirmed no such policy or by-law existed.

[Council motion, 3 Aug 2024 (Cllr Little, seconded Cllr Cupido)]

- Opposed adoption of the DA-run City's new Wayleaves Policy and By-law, arguing consultation had been procedural rather than genuine: of all possible stakeholders - including the developers and service providers who would need to comply - the report reflected only 62 comments, from four companies, two subcouncils, one individual and the Western Cape Government, with some contractors saying they never received the draft at all.

[Council speech, Aug 2025 (Cllr Little)]

3.

HOUSING, LAND AND SPATIAL JUSTICE

- At the first council sitting after the 2021 election, argued for City-owned land in Simonstown - historically a mixed-race community before forced apartheid-era removals - to be used for restorative-justice land restitution rather than disposed of commercially.

[GOOD statement (Cllr Celeste Wannenburg), forgood.org.za]

- Challenged the sale of a Lansdowne property GOOD said was suited to social housing, arguing the DA-run City was alienating land earmarked for affordable housing to private developers without proper departmental sign-off.

[IOL/Cape Argus, Apr 2022]

- Moved that the City suspend all further disposal of residential, community and mixed-use land until a comprehensive housing land strategy is tabled before Council, citing the roughly 400,000-household housing waiting list and grounding the motion in sections 25(5) and 26(2) of the Constitution, section 9(1)(a)(i) of the Housing Act, *section 14(2)(a) of the MFMA, and the Municipal Asset Transfer Regulations; also called for a 90-day audit of all disposals since 2021. Outcome: not adopted - a roughly 50-property auction (including the Good Hope Centre) went ahead on 26 February 2026, and a related urgent High Court application was dismissed on 24 February 2026.*

*[Motion of exigency, 14 Oct 2025 (Cllr Little, seconded Cllr Cupido); outcome reported Feb 2026 (forgood.org.za; *Business Day*; *Moneyweb*)]*



"The City of Cape Town must immediately suspend the release, disposal, or transfer of all City-owned land zoned for residential, community, or mixed-use purposes ... until a comprehensive housing land strategy is tabled before Council ... and clear, measurable progress is shown in reducing the current backlog of approximately 400,000 registered housing beneficiaries."

From the motion text, 14 October 2025 (Cllr Suzette Little, seconded Cllr Jonathan Cupido)



- Submitted questions to the Mayor for a full accounting of the 69 municipal properties auctioned since 2021, asking for sale prices, total revenue, purchasers, development plans submitted and (in later, expanded drafts) MFMA section 14 compliance and valuation-versus-sale-price variances for each; supported by the full Council schedule of disposals since December 2021. Outcome: no written response documented across any of the three progressively detailed drafts submitted between September and October 2025.

[Council questions, 26 Sep & 1 Oct 2025 (Cllr Little)]

- In an IDP/Budget amendment speech, flagged that the City had cut its land-acquisition target from 47 hectares to 16 while continuing to auction land with no regard for the housing waiting list, that a R39 million jobs-programme allocation had been cut after the City itself underperformed against its target, and that the Mayor had still not answered, after more than 12 months, what had happened to the proceeds of loans taken on without identified projects - the same unanswered question recorded elsewhere in this record.

[Council speeches, Jan & Mar 2026 (Cllr Little)]



"The land acquisition target has been cut from 47 hectares to 16. In a city facing a housing crisis, that is not a refinement. It is a retreat. Fewer hectares mean fewer homes, and fewer homes mean more people left waiting. Yet the City continues to auction off land with no regard for those on the housing waiting list."

Council speech, January 2026 (Cllr Suzette Little)



- Moved that City-owned residential properties under the custodianship of the Economic Growth/Property Department - rather than Human Settlements - have their sales halted and be transferred to Human Settlements, after long-term occupants (some resident 20–40 years, including at Maynard Road) faced eviction under property-disposal policy. Outcome: no public outcome confirmed for the motion as a whole; for the Shelley Road cottages specifically, see the next item.

[Council motion of exigency, 9 Aug 2024 (Cllr Cupido, seconded Cllr Davids)]

- Moved, as an urgent matter, that the City immediately retract eviction letters hand-delivered to long-standing Shelley Road tenants in Salt River/Woodstock (some resident around 40 years) giving vacate dates of 26–31 July 2024, that the properties be investigated for transfer to Human Settlements, and that affected residents be offered a right to purchase at reduced cost if a sale proceeds; cited the precedent of *Ndifuna Ukwazi v City of Cape Town* on rental increases at the same properties. Outcome: the caucus had already pressed the matter from 28 June 2024, including a 2 July 2024 request to the City Manager for a full investigation and a halt to pending sales. . Earlier that day a Human Settlements tenancy official had replied that the address was "not rental, but a private matter"; the next day the DA-run City's Property Transactions director replied that the notice was only notice of an intention to dispose, that no tenant would be unlawfully evicted, and that the City was discussing with Human Settlements whether the occupants qualified for transfer to them. The MMC for Human Settlements then addressed residents at a public meeting in 2024, and residents were profiled on the Housing Needs Register. By June 2025 the City confirmed it was working on a legal mechanism to transfer the cottages first to Human Settlements and then to the tenants, but no transfer date had been committed (the official denied that residents had been given one), and, per Cllr Cupido, no transfer to the tenants has taken place; the inter-departmental handover was still under way at the time of the City's last reply. Cllr Cupido reports the motion itself was not adopted because the City began acting on its concerns once it was received.

[Motion of exigency, 8 Jul 2024 (Cllr Cupido, seconded Cllr Little); City replies, 2 and 3 Jul 2024 and 6 Jun 2025 (emails to Cllr Cupido); Cllr Cupido's account, 2026]



"GOOD call on the City of Cape Town Council to resolve the following as urgent: 1. To immediately retract all letters submitted to the affected resident, 2. To consider a full investigation and have the property allocated to the proper department namely Human Settlement."

From the motion text, 8 July 2024 (Cllr Jonathan Cupido, seconded Cllr Suzette Little)



"Engagements between the two Directorates of Human Settlements and Economic Growth have been ongoing in efforts to establish a legal mechanism that will allow for the transfer of the properties, firstly from Property Transactions to Human Settlements and thereafter to the tenants."

City of Cape Town Director: Human Settlements Planning, email to Cllr Cupido, 6 June 2025 (case: Shelley Road, Salt River)



- Opposed the closure of a public place in Hanover Park (Erf 142870) to relocate unhoused Observatory residents, arguing the land was never earmarked for Hanover Park's benefit, that the City had quietly installed underground infrastructure before the item ever reached Council or Subcouncil approval, and that public notices were published only in the Cape Argus and Die Burger - papers the affected community does not typically read.

[Council speech, Jul 2025 (Cllr Little)]

- Called for an immediate investigation into the management of social housing after mounting tenant complaints (excessive utility charges, restrictive visitation rules) at DCI Social Housing in Goodwood and Conradie Park in Thornton; raised the issue at the Human Settlements Portfolio Committee on 5 June 2025, followed up by email on 10 June with no reply, and was then physically blocked from an oversight visit to the DCI Goodwood facility on 22 June 2025 alongside fellow councillors.

[GOOD statement, forgood.org.za, 7 Jul 2025 (Cllr Axolile Notywala)]



"On 22 June 2025, I attempted an oversight visit to the DCI Social Housing facility in Goodwood with fellow City Councillors, after receiving further complaints. We were blocked from entering."

GOOD statement, forgood.org.za, 7 July 2025 (Cllr Axolile Notywala)



- In a council speech, said the Mayor had misled Council for eight years over the continued absence of an Affordable and Inclusionary Housing Policy - first proposed by Brett Herron in 2018 - and that the DA had confirmed the delay served to protect property developers rather than residents facing a deepening affordability crisis.

[Council speech, 30 Apr 2026 (Cllr Axolile Notywala)]



"The Mayor of Cape Town ... has been lying to us all in Cape Town about reasons why we still don't have an affordable and inclusionary housing policy, 8 years later ... the DA are choosing to protect and enrich property developers."

Council speech, 30 April 2026 (Cllr Axolile Notywala)



- Challenged the disposal and development process for City-owned Erf 9702 in Ruwari, Brackenfell, citing the Constitutional Court's Tafelberg judgment to argue residents must have a genuine opportunity to influence decisions on public land before they become effectively irreversible, and highlighted longstanding community opposition and difficulty obtaining meaningful engagement on the site. Built a public-participation app for residents to submit structured comments on the land-use application, which had recorded 469 entries as of the material available.

[GOOD statement, forgood.org.za, 3 Jul 2026 (Cllr Sandra Dickson); independently reported, IOL/Cape Times, 3 Jul 2026]



"Residents must have a real opportunity to be heard before decisions are effectively finalised."

GOOD statement, forgood.org.za, 3 July 2026 (Cllr Sandra Dickson)



- Opposed a non-competitive land sale in the CBD as rewarding an unlawful encroachment, and set it against City land dealings in Kewtown (full market value demanded of long-term occupants, with no discount or recognition), Maynard Street (land taken "for public purpose" now being sold rather than returned) and Wynberg (land expropriated under the Group Areas Act auctioned without informing residents of its history); argued that formal MFMA compliance did not amount to justice, and that GOOD's call for a moratorium and review of such disposals had been refused by the DA majority.

[Council speech, 30 Apr 2026 (Cllr Little)]



"Speaker, apartheid was not just a system of laws, it was a system of outcomes. And today, through different language and different processes, we are reproducing those same outcomes. As GOOD, we called for a moratorium. We asked for a review. We asked for consistency, and the DA majority refused."

Council speech, 30 April 2026 (Cllr Suzette Little)



4.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY OVERSIGHT

- Questioned the Mayor on Cape Town Fire and Rescue Services' capacity, asking the City to confirm firefighter attrition numbers since 2019, the operational status of newly acquired but reportedly unused ladder trucks and fire engines, and what was being done about fire stations operating on skeleton crews heading into fire season.

[Council question, 7 Nov 2024 (Cllr Roscoe Palm)]

- Moved that the Safety and Security Portfolio investigate upgrading traffic officers' handheld EPIC devices with fingerprint identification and a smart-pay discount for immediate payment, after around 30% of traffic fines were struck off the roll due to incomplete ID capture (itself around 60% attributable to blank ID fields on the devices). Outcome: not accepted by the Portfolio Committee Chairperson; treated only as a discussion item at portfolio level, without a formal investigation being commissioned.

[Council motion, 23 May 2023 (Cllr Cupido, seconded Cllr Little)]

- Cllr Lulama Benghe personally intervened after witnessing City Law Enforcement (LEAP) officers allegedly assaulting a group of minors during an operation in March 2025, then reported the incident to the Speaker with photographic evidence; a complaint was subsequently lodged against Cllr Benghe over his intervention, which he rebutted in a written account to the Speaker's office.

[Correspondence with the Office of the Speaker, Apr 2025 (Cllr Lulama Benghe)]

Cllr Benghe's photographic evidence and written account to the Speaker formed the basis of his defence against a complaint lodged over an intervention that began with him witnessing alleged assault of minors by City officers in the field - oversight exercised in person, not from a committee table.

- Moved for safety fencing around the Christel House/Woodlands Gap area after residents reported it as a crime hotspot linked to deaths and robberies, citing the City's constitutional duty to keep communities safe. Outcome: rejected at Subcouncil 18 level as an attempt to "score political points"; the councillor disputed that characterisation and escalated the request directly to the Mayor.

[Motion, escalated to the Mayor 30 Nov 2023 (PR Cllr Shireen August); rejected at Subcouncil, 17 Aug 2023]

- Questioned the City on the Civilian Oversight Committee (CIVOC)'s functions and reporting under the SAPS Act and the Council-approved CIVOC Handbook, asking whether its reports had reached the City Manager and Safety and Security Portfolio Committee over the prior two years, whether the mandated twice-yearly CIVOC-Portfolio Committee meetings had taken place, and whether CIVOC operates as a closed "in-committee" structure. Outcome: no written response documented in the material available.

[Council question, 1 Jun 2025 (Cllr Cupido)]

- Questioned the Mayor on reports that United States Marine Corps personnel had conducted "informal" training with Metro Police cadets, asking whether any government-to-government agreement authorised this, what legal basis the City relied on absent one, and whether national departments (Defence, DIRCO, SAPS) had been consulted. Outcome: no written response documented in the material available.

[Council question, 17 Apr 2026 (Cllr Cupido)]

- Challenged the City's handling of N2 corridor violence and its proposed N2 safety wall, arguing the DA-run City was deflecting blame for community safety failures onto residents, and that security measures should address real safety solutions rather than criminalise poverty or substitute for coordinated public-safety action.

[GOOD statements, forgood.org.za, 15 Dec 2025, 15 Feb & 11 Mar 2026 (Cllr Siyabulela Mamkeli)]



KEY FACT: THE N2 SAFETY WALL

GOOD challenged the DA-run City's handling of N2 corridor violence and its proposed N2 safety wall. GOOD argued the DA-run City was deflecting blame for community safety failures onto residents, and that security measures should deliver real safety rather than criminalise poverty or stand in for coordinated public-safety action.

[GOOD statements, forgood.org.za, 15 Dec 2025, 15 Feb and 11 Mar 2026 (Cllr Siyabulela Mamkeli)]



5.

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT AND APPOINTMENTS ACCOUNTABILITY

- Questioned the Mayor on political appointments within the Executive Mayor's office, requesting the office's staff establishment/organogram and, for five named former opposition councillors employed there, the position, qualifications required, whether each met them, grade, salary and recruitment process followed, plus the total cost of employment for the office. Outcome: no written response documented in the material available.

[Council question, 9 May 2025 (Cllr Lulama Bengel)]

- Complained to the City Manager that an Executive Director had sought a Portfolio Committee Chairperson's preferred "protocol" before answering a councillor's written oversight question, arguing no rule authorises routing an individual councillor's question through a Committee Chairperson for clearance. Outcome: no substantive on-record answer documented in the material available.

[Correspondence with the City Manager, Oct 2022 (Cllr Cupido)]

6.

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY ASSETS

- Led sustained council oversight of the Bellville Velodrome and Athletics Stadium, challenging the DA-run City's 2024 decision to restrict a Portfolio Committee workshop on the facility's future to committee members only and excluding the Bellville Cycle Club and other stakeholders GOOD had invited.

[GOOD statement / IOL, Nov 2024]

- Ran the 'Save the Bellville Velodrome and Stadium' public petition (over 6,000 signatures) after the DA-run City spent only R3.3m of a budgeted R8.3m+R17.5m restoration allocation and then shelved further funding, and pressed the DA-run City for the costing breakdown behind its R300m redevelopment estimate.

[GOOD statement, forgood.org.za]



"Cape Town deserves better. Our athletes deserve better!"
GOOD statement on the Bellville Velodrome campaign, forgood.org.za



- Continued to question the governance of the eventual 2026 long-term private-sector lease deal for the Velodrome, arguing the matter bypassed proper Portfolio Committee processing before being brought to full Council and calling for scrutiny of its legality and administrative-justice compliance.

[IOL/Cape Argus and forgood.org.za, Apr 2026]

- Questioned the disposal of the Gilray Scout Camp (Erf 75571, Klip Road, Grassy Park) via the DA-run City's "Rapid Disposal Mechanism," asking whether a formal Rapid Disposal Policy exists and can be published, how it differs from standard disposal, why public participation appeared limited, and for a five-year count of properties disposed of this way; cited the Municipal Systems Act's councillor non-interference provision in relation to Ward Cllr Donovan Nelson's 9 May 2025 letter acknowledging his own role in suggesting the disposal, after Human Settlements' April 2025 reservation request on the site was not supported for lack of information and consultation. Outcome: no written response documented in the material available.

[Council question, 26 Sep 2025 (Cllr Wesley Neumann)]



"How does the City reconcile the use of rapid disposal with its stated commitments to community consultation, equitable access to land, and redress of spatial injustice? Has the Auditor-General or any oversight body reviewed the legality or compliance of this process?"

From the question text, 26 September 2025 (Cllr Wesley Neumann)



- Raised unequal library resources and maintenance on the Cape Flats compared with more affluent suburbs, citing outdated equipment and maintenance problems at Gugulethu Library and the need to protect libraries as safe spaces for young people.

[GOOD statement, forgood.org.za, 18 Feb 2025 (Cllr Siyabulela Mamkeli)]

7.

BEYOND COUNCIL: LITIGATION AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

- Was granted leave to intervene in the Western Cape High Court case brought by the South African Property Owners' Association (SAPOA), later joined by AfriForum, challenging the DA-run City's 2025/26 fixed cleaning, water and sanitation tariffs - the only political party admitted as a party to the litigation. Heard by a full bench (Judge President Nlwazi Mabindla-Boqwana, Judge Andre Le Grange and Judge Katharine Savage) over 2–4 December 2025, the Court ruled on 30 April 2026 that the tariffs were unlawful, invalid and unconstitutional, set them aside from 30 June 2026, and ordered the DA-run City to pay costs - including GOOD's own costs as an intervening party. Since neither SAPOA, AfriForum nor GOOD had asked the Court for repayment of amounts already collected, GOOD is now separately pursuing legal advice on compelling the DA-run City to refund residents for the unlawful over-collection.

[Western Cape High Court judgment, 30 Apr 2026 (reported IOL, GroundUp, Sunday Times, People's Post, forgood.org.za, 30 Apr–5 May 2026)]



“GOOD is the only political party that took this matter beyond the Council chamber to court, at significant cost.”

GOOD statement, brettherron.co.za, 4 May 2026



- Repeatedly pressed, outside as well as inside the council chamber, for Council to sit in person rather than virtually, arguing remote sittings let the DA-run City avoid the public accountability of appearing before residents and the media in the chamber.

[GOOD statement, forgood.org.za; Sunday World, May 2026]

8.

SERVICE DELIVERY: WATER, SANITATION AND TRANSPORT

- Escalated recurring sewer blockages and overflows in Wesbank and Philippi from a routine service complaint into a public-health and economic emergency, calling for emergency repairs, temporary sanitation support, an infrastructure assessment and accountability for the underlying maintenance failure; also raised chronic sewer blockages in Manenberg's "The Sevens"/Sabie Road as needing a permanent, properly funded fix rather than patchwork repairs.

[GOOD statements, forgood.org.za, 13 Sep 2024, 22 Feb & 8 Apr 2026 (Cllr Siyabulela Mamkeli); independently reported, IOL/Cape Argus, 20 Feb & 1 Mar 2026, Cape Argus, 13 Apr 2026]

By April 2026, GOOD's councillor was describing the Wesbank and Philippi sewer overflows as a public-health emergency requiring urgent intervention - independently confirmed by Cape Argus and IOL, whose coverage included the City's own subsequent rollout of lockable manhole covers as a partial response.

- Argued that the DA-run City's stormwater maintenance and budgeting leaves flooding disproportionately severe in townships, informal settlements and the Cape Flats, repeating the criticism after further flooding in April 2026 exposed the same budget gap.

[GOOD statements, forgood.org.za, 5 Jul 2025 & 20 Apr 2026 (Cllr Siyabulela Mamkeli); independently reported, Daily Maverick, 6 Jul 2025, IOL, 10 Jul 2025, News24, 20 Apr 2026]

- Across three council speeches, supported an integrated public transport network and rail devolution in principle while opposing the City's proposed ownership model as excessively costly, and later called for the debate to be grounded in honest, credible and implementable planning rather than politicking.

[GOOD council speeches/statements, forgood.org.za, 5 Dec 2024, 21 Aug & 4 Dec 2025 (Cllr Siyabulela Mamkeli); independently reported, Financial Mail, 22 Jan 2026]

- Raised accountability concerns over the Cape Metropolitan Transport Fund's deficit, declining reserves and governance arrangements, and separately opposed proposed fare increases and Dial-a-Ride service cuts as placing disproportionate pressure on low-income and disabled commuters.

[GOOD statements, forgood.org.za, 3 Sep 2025, 29 Jan & 5 Feb 2026 (Cllr Siyabulela Mamkeli)]

9.

COUNCIL GOVERNANCE, TRANSPARENCY AND PROCEDURAL ACCOUNTABILITY

- Proposed that Council's Rules of Order for Section 79/80 Portfolio Committees and Subcouncils be amended to create a formal written/oral question mechanism mirroring Council's Rule 22, since no equivalent existed at Portfolio Committee or Subcouncil level; also proposed allowing a one-councillor party to second its own motions. Outcome: adopted and referred to the Rules Committee for processing; not yet finalised as at the material available.

[Council motion, 23 May 2023 (Cllr Cupido, seconded Cllr Little)]

- Disputed a Subcouncil 7 ruling that denied a motion ("Motion Ward 112") on the grounds that the submitting councillor was not an appointed member of that Subcouncil, arguing the Rules define "member" as any City councillor and do not restrict motion submission to appointed members. Outcome: the Speaker's office responded that a councillor must in fact become a member of the relevant committee to submit or second a motion there, and that non-members must ask a member of their own party (or any other committee member) to submit on their behalf - confirming the gap rather than resolving it in GOOD's favour.

[Council correspondence, May 2023 (Cllr Morne Joseph; disputed by Cllr Cupido); Speaker's office reply, Dec 2022]

- Raised the disallowance of a motion covering the release/disposal of land parcels since 2021, arguing in writing that the accompanying oversight question (what has happened) and the motion (what must change) were legally distinct matters and that Rule 20.1.1 had been misapplied to block the debate.

[Speaker's ruling and Cllr Little's written rebuttal, Oct 2025]

- Opposed the Council Speaker's move to shift budget-related council sittings to virtual format in early 2026, arguing this was used to shield MMCs JP Smith and Xanthea Limberg from scrutiny following a Hawks raid on their offices, and called for all council meetings to be held in the chamber.

[GOOD statement, forgood.org.za]

- Publicly criticised virtual council sittings as a mechanism that lets councillors and the executive avoid the public accountability of appearing in person, with Caucus Leader Suzette Little arguing this shielded the DA-run City's narrative from scrutiny.

[Sunday World, May 2026]

- Formally tabled a Motion of No Confidence in Council Speaker Alderman Felicity Purchase, citing eight grounds: persistent failure to maintain order (including the forced removal and choking of Cllr Banzi Dambuza, to which the Speaker responded "When I called for a moment of silence, they (EFF) did not stand. They are unruly"); selective discipline favouring DA councillors; undermining the integrity of the voting process; improper handling of points of order; unilateral changes to meeting format and venue; reputational harm to the municipality; and a failure to recuse herself from a prior motion concerning her own office. Cited United Democratic Movement v Speaker of the National Assembly (CC, 2017) and Action SA v City of Tshwane (2025) in requesting a secret ballot and an independent presiding officer for the vote. Outcome: defeated on 21 August 2025 by a reported 125 votes to 37 with 2 abstentions; the secret-ballot request was not granted and the vote proceeded by Council's ordinary method.

[Motion, 6 Aug 2025 (Cllr Cupido, seconded Cllr Little); vote outcome reported 21–22 Aug 2025 (IOL/Cape Argus/Cape Times)]

- Jointly instructed attorneys with the ANC to challenge the Speaker's decision to hold the 21 August 2025 Council meeting - convened specifically to consider the Motion of No Confidence in her - virtually rather than in person, arguing she should have recused herself from that logistical decision as the subject of the motion, that a secret ballot was doubtful to conduct reliably on an online platform, and that a virtual format disadvantaged illiterate, elderly and low-income residents unable to observe proceedings firsthand. The firm noted the short notice made a court application impractical before the meeting and reserved the right to challenge its lawfulness afterwards. Outcome: the meeting proceeded virtually as scheduled and the motion was defeated (see above); no record of a subsequent court challenge in the material available.

[Attorneys' letter to the Speaker and City Manager, 19 Aug 2025 (Lionel Murray Schwormstedt & Louw, for GOOD and the ANC)]

- Demanded an investigation after a councillor was excluded from Subcouncil proceedings on what GOOD described as arbitrary/political grounds, and sought written confirmation that Subcouncil chairs cannot exclude councillors at will.

[GOOD statement, forgood.org.za]

- The Office of the Speaker subsequently issued a directive (19 Nov 2024) confirming that a councillor whose motion is referred to a Portfolio Committee or Subcouncil they do not sit on retains the right to table and personally speak to that motion.

[Office of the Speaker directive, 19 Nov 2024]

- Proposed a motion contrasting the closed-door Municipal Public Accounts Committee (MPAC) process with the public accessibility of Parliament's Standing Committee on Public Accounts (SCOPA), citing over 900 reported fraud and corruption cases against the DA-run City, and calling for MPAC meetings and the financial interrogation of officials and councillors to be conducted in public, as SCOPA's are, rather than in committee. Outcome: rejected as procedurally non-compliant - the Speaker's office stated the City Manager had determined none of Council's structures were competent to decide it, as the motion itself was found not legally compliant.

[Council motion of exigency, 9 Aug 2024 (Cllr Davids, seconded Cllr Cupido); Speaker's office ruling, Oct 2024]



"GOOD calls for financial matters regarding officials and members of council to be interrogated publicly as with SCOPA ... Council resolve that all task teams, including investigations and reports, feedback and outcomes be open to the public."

From the motion text, 9 August 2024 (Cllr Chad Davids, seconded Cllr Jonathan Cupido)



- Repeated the call to open MPAC to the public a year and a half later, in a council speech on recurring, unaddressed supply-chain governance failures - arguing that noting the same irregularities year after year without consequence was not oversight but endorsement.

[Council speech, Mar 2026 (Cllr Little)]



"This City must open MPAC to the public so that they can witness the many cases before this committee ... continuing to note these reports without consequence is not oversight. It is endorsement."

Council speech, March 2026 (Cllr Suzette Little)



- After the DA-run City accepted in August 2024 that a motion to have a Public Participation by-law and policy drafted would go before Council, formally objected in writing when the City Manager instead diverted it to the Corporate Services Portfolio Committee, arguing this was ultra vires and unconstitutional since section 160(2) of the Constitution prohibits a municipal council from delegating the passing of by-laws, and demanding the item be placed on the Council agenda for debate.

[Letter to the Speaker and City Manager, 7 Nov 2024 (Cllr Cupido)]

- Drafted proposed amendments to Rule 16.7 to close a gap whereby the Speaker is barred from prejudicing any party on debate time yet the Speaker's own ruling on time is stated to be final regardless. Outcome: not adopted - the Rules of Order as currently published retain the original wording GOOD sought to change.

[Internal GOOD drafting, Sep 2023]

- Escalated a long-running dispute over how individual councillors can obtain information from the administration: after a 2022 Speaker's circular routed non-readily-available information requests to Portfolio Committees, Cllr Cupido argued in 2026 correspondence that Rule 1.2 of the Rules of Order expressly excludes Section 79/80 Portfolio Committees from the Rules altogether - meaning the only councillor-question mechanism the Rules actually contain (Rule 22, routed via the Mayor) permits just one question per meeting, forbids analytical content, and allows up to two months for a reply, while Portfolio Committee requests, PAIA requests (submitted in a personal capacity on a 30-day clock) and Subcouncil-Manager requests all fall outside any enforceable timeframe. The Speaker's written reply confirmed each of these routing points but did not commit to a response deadline, stating she "can not be tied down by a date."

[Correspondence with the Office of the Speaker, Jul-Aug 2026 (Cllr Cupido); Speaker's replies, 28 Jul 2026 and Aug 2026]

- In a council speech, challenged the DA-run City for allowing identical National Treasury compliance observations to appear simultaneously on both the open and the confidential Council agenda, demanding an explanation and corrective action.

[Council speech, 31 Mar 2026 (Cllr Siyabulela Mamkeli); independently reported, Bulletin, 1 Apr 2026]

The same Treasury compliance findings the public could see listed on the open Council agenda were, on the same day, also listed as confidential - independently reported the same week as the City "hiding" its own Treasury reports in closed sessions.

PERSISTENT OVERSIGHT, MET WITH PERSISTENT STONEWALLING

GOOD's councillors consistently used the exact channel Council's own Rules provide - written questions under Rule 22 - to press the DA administration for answers. Yet the great majority of those questions in this record show no documented written response, in one case (the R9.7 billion infrastructure question) for a full year. Council's Rules require an unanswered question to automatically return to the next Council agenda after 60 calendar days, triggering a mandatory verbal reply; whether the DA-run majority actually allowed that safeguard to operate cannot be confirmed from the material reviewed here. Read together, this is not a record of oversight falling short - it is a record of a majority party using its numbers and procedural silence to avoid scrutiny of its own conduct.

SCOPE AND NEXT STEPS

This compilation combines primary council documents (motions, questions and official City/Speaker correspondence supplied directly, including a detailed internal audit of outcomes and Rules-of-Order compliance), published GOOD council statements, and independent media coverage - it is not yet an exhaustive account of every motion, question and committee intervention across the 2021–2026 term. Outcomes are stated only where documented; several remain unresolved or unconfirmed, and are marked as such rather than assumed.
