

# Florida Road monitors a success

## MORNINGSIDE

THE SIDEWALK Monitor programme implemented in Florida Road has restored the area to the vibrant tourist spot it used to be. A year ago there were complaints that crime was rife.

The programme was started by the Florida Road Urban Improvement Precinct (UIP) in partnership with the eThekweni municipality, metro police and SAPS Berea to address complaints from visitors about vagrants who posed as car guards but who were involved in crime.

Within a year the monitors have proved to be an asset to the programme.

In January, UIP security officer Lloyd Sithole apprehended a suspect following a theft at Holdens Spar.

In the same month, a UK visitor commended the system via TripAdvisor as being one of the positive assets of Florida Rd.

By April, monitors like Simon Maduna, not only guarded cars parked in the road, but used their own brooms to make sure that the road was clean.

In August, Derrick Cele and Thulani Khuzwayo were rewarded for the arrest of a suspect following a theft from a car.



Simon Maduna not only keeps an eye on cars parked in the road, but uses his own broom to keep the road clean.

Picture: SUPPLIED

Precinct manager for Florida Road UIP, Jarrod Evans, said since its inception the programme had helped remove many of the problems that once disturbed visitors and residents.

"Without our stakeholders and our monitors none of this would have been achieved.

The structure brought with it a sudden calmness to the road, he said, leaving one with the impression of a welcoming, friendly and enjoyable place to visit, live and conduct business.

"This feeling continues to prevail as we collectively care for Florida Road," he said.

