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Innovative LivingPillars™ Bring Biodiversity to Clapham Junction

Innovative LivingPillars™ is a new Clapham Junction BID initiative, designed to encourage biodiversity across Clapham Junction whilst enhancing the neighbourhood with foliage and colour.



Clapham Junction Business Improvement District (BID) Ltd has joined forces with Scotscape Group Ltd – an Urban Greening company – to install fourteen LivingPillars™ across the BID locale. This ground-breaking project is a harmonious combination of nature and technology, featuring sustainable planting on local lamp posts – creating visually stunning pillars of flora and foliage.



Coupled with a closed loop integrated irrigation system – driven by solar panels – The LivingPillars™ create Placemaking by encouraging green wayfinding corridors. They provide an attractive shopping and dwell-time experience for local businesses, the residential community and visitors to The Junction. By planting around an existing resource (lamp posts) the LivingPillar™ installations do not utilise footfall space.

The planting is long term, shrub-based and therefore doesn't need to be replaced seasonally. Planting palettes have been chosen to improve the trapping of particulate matter, encourage biodiversity and bring colour to the streets in the Clapham Junction BID area (where trees are unable to be planted). The Bird and insect boxes within the Pillars help encourage biodiversity.



The LivingPillars™ will also provide additional Christmas Light and event features, as they can be interlaced with Christmas lighting displays (low energy LED) during the festive season and up lit with colour for seasonal events.

The project is a unique way of introducing nature into the built environment. The aim is to increase a feeling of wellbeing to those who live, work and visit Clapham Junction.

Moreover, for every LivingPillar™ installed, Scotscape will plant 1m² of Microforest in the area. Microforests provide excellent air cleaning and carbon sequestration properties, as well as encouraging biodiversity and improving drainage.

The Junction Executive BID Director, Roz Lloyd-Williams, commented, "We're incredibly proud to see this project come to fruition. By combining nature and technology, this project brings biodiverse and aesthetic benefits to the locale with sustainable greenery which, we hope, will provide a pleasant dwell time experience for the business and residential community, encouraging footfall to the high street.

LivingPillars™ were installed across Clapham Junction BID in August 2022.

Scotscape CEO and Founder Angus Cunningham commented "It's fantastic to have been involved in this project with Roz at the Clapham Junction BID. The LivingPillars™ are designed to create biodiversity corridors and help with wayfinding and placemaking in our urban areas. The planting is long term and will put on some growth this year. In the spring they will really fill out and we will carry out a biodiversity sweep in Summer 2023.

The project has been funded by the BID with match-funding from Wandsworth Council.

***The Junction BID area covers businesses in Clapham Junction Station, St. John's Road, Northcote Road and St. John's Hill, Battersea Rise, Falcon Road (north - up to the Railway Bridge) and Lavender Hill (up to and including Battersea Arts Centre).**

For more information, please contact Roz Lloyd-Williams (The Junction Executive BID Director) on: roz.lloyd-williams@thejunctionbid.co.uk or tel: 07522 812299. [Scotscape enquiries@scotscape.co.uk](mailto:Scotscape.enquiries@scotscape.co.uk)

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[Living Pillars \(scotscape.co.uk\)](http://LivingPillars.scotscape.co.uk)

Notes to Editors

The not-for-profit Clapham Junction Business Improvement District (BID) Ltd was formed in spring 2019 and is run by a voluntary board of Directors who are responsible for supporting over 420+ businesses across Clapham Junction. The Junction BID delivers strategies and innovative projects to improve the trading environment for businesses, the shopping experience for residents and visitors, and to drive tourism in the Clapham Junction area. The Board's role focuses on prioritising three key themes (namely, Marketing and Promotion, Safe and Welcoming and Events and Festivals), highlighted by BID area businesses, during the extensive consultation, prior to the November 2018 Ballot. The BID area covers Clapham Junction Station, St. John's Road, Northcote Road, St. John's Hill, Battersea Rise, Falcon Road (as far north as the railway bridge) and Lavender Hill (up to and including Battersea Arts Centre). Projects are based on themes outlined in the five-year business plan, with flexibility to respond annually to changing demands and the changing landscape due to the recent pandemic.

About Scotscape Group Ltd

Scotscape Group Ltd are an innovation led Company, unique in their field of Urban Greening - to encourage nature and biodiversity into our built environment.

Our LivingPillar™ innovation has been three years in development, including a Knowledge Transfer Agreement with Greenwich University. Proof Of Concept was achieved in Ebury Street, SW1W in 2019. Covid delayed the introduction to market, but the time was used to continue the development of the technology side. Each LivingPillar provides a live feed of information via an App to our team so that we can ensure the irrigation and solar power are working correctly to sustain the long-term planting.

Air pollutant data will be available in Autumn 2023. Toshiba have provided the brains behind the Air data collection in conjunction with Smart DCC (government supported) who have provided funding and potential use of their comms network throughout the UK. Smart DCC provide the comms infrastructure for the smart meters in residential households.

Scotscape are first to market using the combination of technology and sustainable planting on lamp posts and have a patent pending.

<https://www.scotscape.co.uk/>

About Microforests

At four years of growth 1m² of Miyawaki forest can sequester 3 kilos of Co₂ per annum and emit 2.2 kilos of pure oxygen per m² per annum.

During storm conditions, just 1m² of microforest can process up to 150 litres (1.5m³) of water run-off. This is partly due to the fertile forest floor that acts like a sponge.

There is increased biodiversity in the built environment with additional air quality improvements using the microforest.