

Fire erupts at SunSquare City Bowl near Cape Town heritage building

 By [Lindsey Schutters](#)

6 May 2024

Bizcommunity incorrectly reported the location of the fire as the Athletic & Social Club. The fire started at the adjacent SunSquare Cape Town City Bowl and Athletic & Social Club patrons were evacuated as a safety precaution, given the close proximity. Bizcommunity apologises for any reputational damage caused by the confusion. [Updated story continues below]



SunSquare Cape Town City Bowl development by Green Willow's Properties Pty (Ltd) occupies an entire city block at a major intersection in the Cape Town CBD and is operated by Tsogo Sun.

A fire broke out at the SunSquare Cape Town City Bowl hotel in Buitengracht street, with patrons at the Athletic & Social Club in the adjacent historic building in Castle Street were evacuated at approximately 8.20pm on Monday night.

Emergency services were quickly on the scene. Fortunately, there are no reports of injuries at this time. [updated]
SunSquare did not provide comment at time of writing.



Google Maps satellite view of Cape Town city block where the fire occurred

The cause of the fire is currently under investigation. However, this incident raises concerns as it comes [mere months after a devastating balcony collapse at the same venue](#) on the same city block in November 2023.

The Athletic & Social Club is a well-known establishment in the heart of Cape Town, attracting many visitors and becoming a staple of *First Thursdays* in the city. [updated] Club management declined to make a formal comment on the incident which happened at the neighbouring property but stressed that the safety of its staff and customers is always its primary concern.

The extent of the damage remains to be assessed, but the repeated incidents in this area of the city have raised concerns



"We were just escorted out of Athletic Club!" an Athletic & Social Club patron reported to *Bizcommunity* shortly after the blaze began. "Half my Negroni is inside," he lamented.

Authorities are urging the public to remain patient as the investigation unfolds. They assure the community that all probable causes of the fire will be thoroughly examined.

The City of Cape Town will provide further updates on the situation as information becomes available.

ABOUT LINDSEY SCHUTTERS

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