



# Memorandum

**TO:** BUILDING STRONG  
NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE

**FROM:** Sara L. Hensley

**SUBJECT:** UPDATE OF THE ANTI-GRAFFITI  
AND LITTER PROGRAM AND  
YEAR TO DATE RESULTS

**DATE:** 10-06-05

APPROVED:

DATE:

10/6/05

This report provides an update of the Anti-Graffiti and Litter Program (AGLP) efforts and year to date results.

## ANALYSIS

### GRAFFITI REPORT

#### Eradication

- Hotline: Response time for Hotline calls from July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005 was 99% within 48 hours. The target for this period was 95%. Response time for gang graffiti was 99% within 24 hours. The target for this period was 100%. From July 1, 2005 through August 31, 2005 the response time for Hotline calls was 98% within 48 hours. From July 1, 2005 through August 31, 2005 the response time for gang graffiti was 100% within 24 hours. The target for this period was 100%.

#### Community Involvement

- From July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005, there were a total of 2,668 Adopt-A-Block Volunteers who have removed 151,028 square feet of graffiti. From July 1, 2005 through August 31, 2005 there were a total of 2,786 Adopt-A-Block Volunteers who have removed 17,200 square feet of graffiti.

#### Additional Program Information

- Staff from Oxnard, and Gilroy, California called San José to learn more about our successful Anti-Graffiti and Litter Programs.
- All Anti-Graffiti and Litter Program staff spent the week of July 18<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup> proactively removing graffiti in all Council Districts in San José. The chart illustrates how much graffiti was removed in that week compared to the same effort in May 2005.

District	May 2005	July 2005
1	432	150
2	107	308
3	255	376
4	114	0
5	266	221
6	123	705
7	303	74
8	304	105
9	140	122
10	251	0
<b>Total Tags</b>	<b>2,295</b>	<b>2,061</b>

NOTE: Not enough staff were available to cover all council districts. Council Districts 4 and 10 will be covered in the next sweep. The number of tags vary due to the availability of staff working in a specific district and graffiti spotted for removal.

- The Anti-Graffiti and Litter Program staff were invited to speak in the morning general session at the Keep America Beautiful Conference in July in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Staff will be speaking at the Graffiti session in October at the National Crime Prevention Conference in Washington, D.C.

### **PICK-UP SAN JOSE REPORT**

#### Litter Eradication

- The Weekend Juvenile Offender Program picked up 4,197 bags of litter from July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005. From July 1, 2005 through August 31, 2005 the Weekend Juvenile Offender Program picked up 487 bags of litter.
- Forty illegal dumpsites were identified for physical improvements through a CDBG Grant. Efforts were completed at 11 of the sites and work on seven sites is currently in progress.

#### Community Involvement

- Pick Up San Jose Volunteers (PUSJ):
  - a. From July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005:
    - 3,005,369 – Total bags of litter picked up by all participating PUSJ organizations and volunteers. July and August 2005 = 1,527 bags
    - 2,653 – Total bags of litter removed by Pick Up San José volunteers. July and August 2005 = 190
    - 1,037 – Total bags of litter picked up by one day clean up groups. July and August 2005 = 132

**Subject: Update of the Anti-Graffiti and Litter Program and Year to Date Results**

As of August 31, 2005:

- 2,582 – Total number of Pick Up San José volunteers.
  - 95 – Total number of Hotspots adopted
  - 143 – Total number of Hotspot volunteers
- b. If all the bags of litter picked up by all participating PUSJ organizations and volunteers from July 1, 2002 through August 31, 2005 (8,486,945) were lined up next to each other, the line would stretch for 4,822 miles spanning a distance from San José to just beyond Cuzco, Peru.
- Education
    - a. Three litter educational commercials were broadcasted on several cable television channels. From July through June, the commercials ran 2,979 times and were viewed by 17,901,515 people. The Anti-Graffiti and Litter Program staff were recently asked to discontinue the commercials because it was determined that they are not an eligible CDBG activity. PRNS staff is exploring alternatives to continue this effort.

Enforcement Strategies

- Local law enforcement agencies issued 141 citations for littering from July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005. For the months of July and August, local law enforcement agencies issued 10 citations for littering. These citations are primarily for littering and trucks whose loads were improperly covered.

Caltrans Update

- Caltran's budget reduction in Santa Clara County resulted in a change in staff from 124 in 2000 to 81 currently. This reduction has affected their ability to pick up litter on the highways. They currently have 178 Adopt-A-Highway groups and only seven available spots to adopt in San Jose which are listed below:

Highway	Direction	Boundaries
87	Northbound	Highway 800 to Airport Parkway
101	Southbound	Scheller to Metcalf
101	Southbound	Highway 85 to Blossom Hill
101	Northbound	Heller to Capitol Expressway
280	Northbound	Highway 101 to First Street
280	Northbound	First Street to Meridian
880	Southbound	101 to Montague Expressway

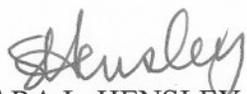
The State has also recently added \$3.2 million to Caltran for litter clean up. This money is earmarked for contracting and overtime and should help the litter situation in San José and throughout the County.

Program Expansion

- In the Mayor's Budget Message, he requested an expansion of the "Anti-Litter Program to include transit stops and street medians to the extent feasible". Further dialog with the Mayor's office revealed the following:
  1. Ownership and maintenance of transit stops is by the Valley Transportation Authority and maintenance of the shelters is accomplished through a variety of ways. Bus stops with shelters are cleaned through a contract with Clear Channel Outdoor. They have Adopt-A-Stop Program volunteers who clean 309 shelters and their staff cleans the remainder stops. Depending on their location, they are cleaned once a week, twice a week or daily. The Anti-Graffiti and Litter Program has committed to picking up litter around all bus stops areas when staff are removing graffiti on the benches.
  2. The other goal expressed in the Mayor's Budget Message is to have the street medians to be as free of litter as possible. The Department of Transportation's Adopt-A-Street will continue to recruit volunteers for this effort and it was recommended by the Mayor's office that the Anti-Graffiti and Litter Program focus its resources on recruiting volunteers to remove litter from the 150 Hot Spots in the City. After receiving this recommendation, the Anti-Graffiti and Litter Program staff made some improvements in the recruitment process and focused on Adopt-A-Spot volunteers. On June 30, 2005, there were 63 Spots adopted. As of September 15<sup>th</sup>, there are now 119 adopted.
  3. The Mayor has asked that the Anti-Graffiti and Litter Program develop some options to address the issue of litter on the freeways and highways. This issue will be addressed as part of the October 17<sup>th</sup> oral presentation.

COORDINATION

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office.

  
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and Neighborhood Services