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AGENDA REPORT

TO: Sabrina B. Landreth
City Administrator

FROM: Joe DeVries
Assistant to the City
Administrator

SUBJECT: 2019 Caltrans Annual Progress
Report

DATE: March 6, 2019

City Administrator Approval

Date:

3/14/19

RECOMMENDATION

Staff Recommends That The City Council Receive The 2019 Annual Progress Report On Caltrans Maintenance Activities In The City Of Oakland.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Attached is a letter from Tony Tavares, District Director of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) that serves as Caltrans' Annual Progress Report for Fiscal Years (FY) 2017 and 2018 (**Attachment A**). This report provides further analysis of the work performed and collaboration during this period.

BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

On January 11, 2006, because of a public nuisance action filed by the City of Oakland (City), Caltrans signed a ten-year monitoring and maintenance commitment with the City. As required under this Letter of Understanding (LOU):

- Caltrans and the City of Oakland established a joint Working Group to meet monthly to discuss, coordinate, prioritize, and strategize Caltrans cleanup activities in Oakland;
- Caltrans submits monthly maintenance records of their work in Oakland;
- The City and Caltrans submit semi-annual progress reports for two years and then annual reports on abatement activities in Oakland to the City Council;
- Caltrans provided a comprehensive listing of all Caltrans properties in Oakland so that the information can be integrated into the City's computerized mapping system; and
- Lessees of Caltrans properties are being held accountable to the LOU sufficiently.

From July through December of 2005, the City and Caltrans representatives held informal monthly meetings to discuss projects of mutual interest. In January 2006, after the LOU was signed, this informal group became the Working Group established by the LOU. The Working Group met monthly from 2006-2016 to foster communication and coordinate efforts around

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maintenance issues such as illegal dumping, litter, graffiti, overgrown vegetation, homeless encampments, and other fire and health safety hazards in the City.

The LOU officially expired in January of 2016 and the City and Caltrans leadership discussed alternatives to renewing the LOU that would allow the work to continue and expand. The informal agreement that was reached at that time and has remained in effect since then includes less frequent meetings of the Working Group that focus on maintenance issues, creation of a separate Land Use Working Group that meets as needed, and careful tracking of service requests electronically through Oak311.

The addition of the Land Use Working Group has allowed for better coordination between Caltrans' Airspace Leasing and Surplus Property Staff and City Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Staff to better plan the use of Caltrans property within the City. This has been beneficial to both agencies and the community in that City staff who are familiar with community concerns help Caltrans identify appropriate tenants whose use will fit into the City's Specific Plans and Zoning Code. Also, Caltrans staff act when the City identifies tenants that are not maintaining their property appropriately. This separate meeting allowed the maintenance meetings to run more efficiently and occur less frequently. Due to the collaboration with Oak311, service requests are forwarded to Caltrans immediately for follow-up and inefficient in-person meetings are kept at a minimum.

The Land Use Working Group also allowed for conversations that led to Caltrans leasing property to the City for the operation of the Northgate Community Cabin site to serve as an emergency shelter for our homeless population. This successful pilot project helped encourage Assembly Member Bonta to sponsor Assembly Bill (AB) 3139 which passed and was signed into law in the fall of 2018. AB 3139 requires that Caltrans offer any adequate available lease space to the City for additional emergency shelter for a dollar a month. Currently the City is developing two additional Community Cabin sites on Caltrans lease properties that will open later this spring.

ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES

As noted above, most complaints regarding Caltrans property that the City receives are handled through Oak311 and automatically forwarded directly to the Caltrans Maintenance Supervisor. A copy is also sent to the Caltrans Working Group Coordinator for tracking purposes. The Caltrans Working Group meetings are attended by representatives from Caltrans, Oakland Public Works Department, Human Services Department, and the Oakland Fire Department. Occasionally representatives from the State Assembly Office, and Alameda County Vector Control will attend as well. The meetings are an opportunity to discuss complex issues that require a greater level of effort to resolve than the standard call center request.

The table below highlights the accomplishments described in the attached Caltrans' Annual Progress Report for Fiscal Years (FY) 2017 and 2018 as compared to the two previous years. **Attachment B** provides a chart showing Caltrans Maintenance Activities from 2006-2016; the prior ten years of the agreement.

Caltrans Maintenance Activity in Oakland 2014-2018

Task	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Rights-of-way swept (miles)	4,412	3,984	2,725	2,216
Overgrown vegetation pruned (acres)	99.5	139	329.97	321.76
Graffiti removed (square feet)	492,084	1,019,112	1,111,367	1,069,363
Fences repaired (linear feet)	4,549	5,248	2,583	4,492
Homeless camps cleaned	923	2077	2241	2816
Adopt-a-Highway (litter bags collected)	1,258	467	668	1,019
Cubic yards of illegal dumping removed	415	115	228	104.58

As noted in **Attachment A**, Caltrans has calculated the cost of the above maintenance activities in Oakland for FY2016-17 to be \$2,945,839, and for FY2017-18 to be \$3,212,642.

One significant increase to note is in removal of vegetation in the past two years. This is in large part based on the rainfall levels creating far more vegetation that needs removal and a thorough project along the Highway 13 corridor. Caltrans staff partner closely with Public Works staff and the Oakland Fire Department's Prevention Bureau to target dangerous overgrowth areas and respond quickly.

Another notable increase is in the adopt-a-spot program. Although there was a decline in 2015-16, new leadership have made a diligent effort to increase the number and effectiveness of adopt-a-spot groups and that is reflected in the total number of bags collected.

FISCAL IMPACT

This item is for informational purposes only and does not have a direct fiscal impact or cost.

PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST

No outreach was deemed necessary for this report beyond the standard City Council agenda noticing procedures.

COORDINATION

City of Oakland Departments that participate in the Caltrans Working Group include: Oakland Public Works, Human Services Department, and Oakland Fire Department. The City Attorney's Office and Budget Office were consulted in the preparation of this report.

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SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: The involvement of Caltrans staff in litter and debris removal and beautification will improve the physical appearance of Oakland and will help stimulate economic growth, retain business, and promote civic pride.

Environmental: Removal of dumped materials and litter will reduce the amount of debris that enters the storm drain system, polluting our creeks and waterways.

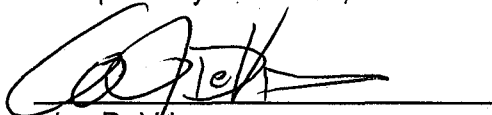
Social Equity: Enhancement of communication and coordination between the City and Caltrans will improve the appearance of Oakland and enhance the overall living conditions and safety of all Oakland residents.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff Recommends That The City Council Accept The 2019 Annual Progress Report On Caltrans Maintenance Activities In The City Of Oakland.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Joe DeVries, Assistant to the City Administrator, at 238-3083.

Respectfully submitted,



Joe DeVries
Assistant to the City Administrator

Attachments (1):

- A. Caltrans Progress Report, July 2016-17 to June 2017-18.
- B. Caltrans Maintenance Activity 2006-2016

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.

February 28, 2019

The Honorable Rebecca Kaplan
City Council President
City Hall-One Frank Ogawa Plaza
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Ms. Kaplan,

Enclosed is the annual progress report as agreed upon by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the City of Oakland. The report addresses maintenance activities performed by Caltrans within the City of Oakland from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

This annual progress report summarizes the State's maintenance activities including the production of work and cost expenditures. The maintenance activities include sweeping of state right of way, graffiti removal, overgrown vegetation, fire break and manual weed control, homeless encampment removal, fence repairs Adopt-A-Highway, and illegal dumping removal.

If you need any further information, please contact David Ambuehl, Deputy District Director of Maintenance at (510) 286-5893.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Tavares", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

TONY TAVARES
District 4 Director

Enclosure

Listed in the table below is a breakdown of maintenance activities from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017:

Activity	Production	Cost
Right of Way Swept	2,725 Miles Swept	\$ 344,170.50
Overgrown Vegetation, Fire Break & Manual Weed Control	329.97 Acres	\$ 1,428,727.05
Illegal Encampment Removal	2241 Sites Cleaned	\$ 569,467.70
Fencing Repaired	2,583 Linear Feet	\$ 50,737.55
Graffiti Removal	1,111,367 Sq. Ft. Cleaned	\$ 519,602.50
Adopt-A-Hwy	668 Litter Bags	\$ 12,819.00
Illegal Dumping	228 Cubic Yards	\$ 20,315.42
		Total \$ 2,945,839.72

Listed in the table below is a breakdown of maintenance activities from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018:

Activity	Production	Cost
Right of Way Swept	2,216 Miles Swept	\$ 325,202.75
Overgrown Vegetation, Fire Break & Manual Weed Control	321.76 Acres	\$ 1,331,939.40
Illegal Encampment Removal	2816 Sites Cleaned	\$ 702,701.20
Fencing Repaired	4492 Linear Feet	\$ 72,119.68
Graffiti Removal	1,069,363 Sq. Ft. Cleaned	\$ 471,682.01
Adopt-A-Hwy	1019 Litter Bags	\$ 27,315.71
Illegal Dumping	104.58 Cubic Yards	\$ 15,605.28
		Total \$ 3,212,642.40

"Provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability"

Caltrans Maintenance Activity in the City of Oakland 2006-2016

Task	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Rights-of-way swept (miles)	1,934	4,079	3,993	2,082	2,032	3,017	4,196	3,942	4,412	3,984
Overgrown vegetation removed (acres)	155.75	110.45	76.75	107.9	74.16	92.25	230	76	99.5	139
Graffiti removed (square feet)	126,757	153,045	241,647	230,174	278,702	361,061	339,985	563,558	492,084	1,019,112
Fences repaired (linear feet)	5,811	3,167	3,712	2,210	2,343	3,105	3,233	5,134	4,549	5,248
Homeless camps cleaned	446	723	812	336	443	572	687	1030	923	2077
Adopt-a-Highway (litter bags collected)	1,957	2,080	2,534	1,822	817	626	866	1536	1,258	467
Cubic yards of illegal dumping removed*								992	415	115

* This is a new category added in 2013-14.