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2012 MAY 10 PM 12:08

AGENDA REPORT

TO: DEANNA J. SANTANA
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

FROM: Vitaly B. Troyan, P. E.

SUBJECT: Caltrans Letter of Understanding
Annual Report

DATE: April 5, 2012

City Administrator
Approval

Date

5/07/12

COUNCIL DISTRICT: City Wide

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Committee accept this report.

OUTCOME

This is an informational report with no direct fiscal impact or outcome.

BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Attached is a letter from Bijan Sartipi, District Director of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) along with Caltrans' Annual Progress Report.

On December 21, 2005, as a result of a public nuisance action filed by the City of Oakland (City), The California Department of Transportation 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
- Lessees of Caltrans properties are being held accountable to the LOU

From July through December of 2005, City and Caltrans representatives held informal monthly meetings to discuss projects of mutual interest. In January 2006, after the LOU was signed, this

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informal group became the Working Group established by the LOU. The Working Group has met monthly to foster communication and coordinate abatement of blight such as illegal dumping, litter, graffiti, overgrown vegetation, homeless encampments and other fire and health safety hazards in the City.

ANALYSIS

Caltrans Working Group monthly meetings are attended by representatives of Caltrans, the City's Public Works Agency, Oakland Police Department, Building Services, Department of Human Services, and Oakland Fire Department. Representatives bring their lists of Caltrans issues to the table. All issues are discussed and a timetable for resolution by Caltrans is established. As a result of the LOU and Working Group, joint inspections, cleanups and resolution of various sites have been performed more quickly and on a more regular basis.

In addition to the City representatives who attend the monthly meetings, numerous outside agencies are sent agendas and some attend the monthly meetings. This year attendees have included representatives from BART and Alameda County. Issues are forwarded to the Working Group from various City agencies, PWA's Call Center, and the attendees themselves, and are included in the agendas and discussed at meetings. Between meetings, attendees follow up and resolve agenda items such as homeless encampments, ownership clarification, fire prevention, signage, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) reviews, illegal dumping and graffiti.

The following table highlights the accomplishments described in the attached Annual Progress Report from Caltrans for July 2010 through June 2011, as well as those of previous years.

Task	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Rights-of-way swept (miles)	2,922	1,934	4,079	3,993	2,082	2,032
Overgrown vegetation removed (acres)	65.75	155.75	110.45	76.75	107.9	74.16
Graffiti removed (square feet)	108,978	126,757	153,045	241,647	230,174	278,702
Fences repaired (linear feet)	5,050	5,811	3,167	3,712	2,210	2,343
Homeless encampments removed	140	446	723	812	336	443
Adopt-a-Highway (litter bags collected)	1,454	1,957	2,080	2,534	1,822	817

As noted in the attachment, Caltrans has calculated the cost of these programs in Oakland for July 2010 through June 2011 to be \$939,083.21.

The fluctuation in the data does not necessarily reflect surges in activities. In many cases it represents the addition or loss of Caltrans staffing. The graffiti numbers reflect an increase in graffiti. The early large fence numbers indicate the backlog of fence repairs. Although the number of homeless encampments has increased, Caltrans' ability to abate them has declined with staffing losses. Caltrans' Adopt a Highway program was dormant in 2010-2011 and resumed adoptions in 2012.

Inter-Agency Coordination

The Working Group has also worked on long term solutions to particularly stubborn issues by being innovative, using inter-agency cooperation and experimenting. Examples from June 2010 through February 2012 include:

- Golden State Works – Using a grant from the State, Caltrans has hired, through Volunteers of America, three eight-to-ten person crews to remove litter from Caltrans freeways in Oakland. Another crew may be hired this year.
- Alameda County properties adjacent to Caltrans – Alameda County representatives have joined the Working Group to learn how to address homeless encampments on County property adjacent to Caltrans property, and Caltrans property leased to Alameda County.
- MacArthur Transit Village with BART – BART staff have been coordinating with the Working Group to ensure that the security measures incorporated by BART in the new MacArthur Transit Village will assist with illegal dumping problems in the area.

Similar to Caltrans' LOU, Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) has a Memorandum of Understanding with the City which requires them to maintain their property in Oakland. Formal meetings with UPRR are held at least twice a year to discuss engineering and track removal projects, as well as maintenance. Daily maintenance concerns are relayed to UPRR from City agencies and the Public Works Call Center, and followed up as necessary.

PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

Not applicable.

COORDINATION

City of Oakland agencies: Public Works, Oakland Police Department, Building Services, Department of Human Services, and Oakland Fire Department.

Outside agencies: BART and Alameda County

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

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.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Jocelyn Combs, Clean Community Supervisor, at (510) 238-6191.

Respectfully submitted,


VITALY B. TROYAN, P.E.
Director, Public Works Agency

Reviewed by:
Brooke A. Levin, Assistant Director
Department of Facilities and Environment

Reviewed by:
Susan Katchee, Environmental Services Manager

Prepared by:
Jocelyn Combs, Clean Community Supervisor
Environmental Services Division

Attachments -
Caltrans Progress Report, July 2010- June 2011

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

October 17, 2011

The Honorable Larry Reid
City Council President
City Hall-One Frank Ogawa Plaza
Oakland, CA 94612

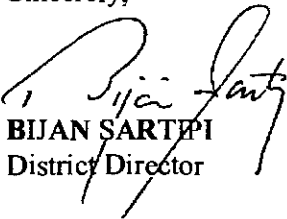
Dear Council Member Reid,

Enclosed is the annual progress report as agreed upon by the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the City of Oakland in the January 2006 Letter of Understanding (LOU). The report addresses maintenance activities performed by Caltrans within the City of Oakland from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

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, adopt a highway litter removal, graffiti removal, overgrown vegetation, homeless encampment removal and fence repair.

If you need any further information, please contact me at (510) 286-5900 or Nader Eshghipour, Deputy District Director of Maintenance at (510) 286-5893.

Sincerely,


BIJAN SARTPI
District Director

Listed in the table below is a breakdown of maintenance activities from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011:

Activity	Production	Cost
Right of Way Swept	2,032 Miles Swept	\$203,381.44
Overgrown Vegetation/ Fire Break	74.16 Acres Pruned	\$473,835.19
Homeless Removal	443 Sites Cleared	\$102,232.27
Fencing Repaired	2,343 Linear Feet	\$ 69,780.66
Graffiti Removal	278,702 Sq. Ft. Cleaned	\$ 79,471.07
Adopt-A-Hwy	817 Litter Bags	\$ 10,382.58
		Total \$939,083.21