

CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly
FROM: Public Works Agency
DATE: November 27, 2007

RE: **A Progress Report On Caltrans Maintenance Activities in the City Of Oakland**

SUMMARY

In December 2005, the City of Oakland and Caltrans signed a Letter of Understanding (LOU) that formalizes the structure for the ongoing relationship between the City and Caltrans in the maintenance of Caltrans properties. The LOU aims to maximize the clean-up activities by Caltrans within Oakland, while recognizing the limited public resources that are available. This progress report is the fourth and last semi-annual report provided for by the LOU, covering January through June 2007. Future reports will be annual reports, pursuant to the LOU.

Caltrans has complied with all of the tasks agreed to in the LOU, including:

- Meeting monthly and responding in a timely manner to issues brought to them
- Providing monthly maintenance records for all activities listed in the LOU

Highlights from Caltrans from January through June 2007 included:

- Response to the April 29, 2007 maze fire
- Long term solutions to on-going problems such as using steel fence that could not be cut or bent to deter illegal activity
- Support from the California Highway Patrol and Oakland Police Department
- Expedited graffiti removal.

FISCAL IMPACT

This is an informational progress report only; therefore there is no fiscal impact.

BACKGROUND

On December 21, 2005, as a result of the public nuisance action filed by the City, Caltrans signed a ten-year monitoring and maintenance commitment with the City of Oakland. As required under this LOU:

Item: _____
Public Works Committee
November 27, 2007

- Caltrans and Oakland established a joint working group to meet monthly to discuss, coordinate, prioritize and strategize Caltrans clean up activities in Oakland
- Caltrans submits monthly maintenance records of their work in Oakland
- The City and Caltrans submit a progress report on abatement activities in Oakland to the City Council
- Caltrans provided a comprehensive listing of all Caltrans properties in Oakland so that the information could 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 informal group became the Working Group established by the LOU. The Working Group has met monthly to encourage communication and coordinate abatement efforts of blighted conditions such as illegal dumping, litter, graffiti, overgrown vegetation and other fire and health safety hazards in the City. The monthly meetings are attended by representatives from Caltrans, the City's Public Works Agency, Police Department, Community and Economic Development Agency, and Fire Department who bring their lists of Caltrans issues to the table. The meetings include discussions of citizens' concerns regarding homeless encampments, litter, fire abatement and the appearance of their neighborhoods. All issues are discussed and a timetable for resolution by Caltrans is established. As a result of the LOU and Working Group, joint inspections and cleanups of various sites have been performed more quickly and on a more regular basis. Communication has greatly improved and Caltrans has become an active partner in cleaning up Oakland.

At each monthly meeting since the LOU was signed, Caltrans representatives have provided monthly reports, which include results for each abatement activity in the City:

- rights of way swept
- overgrown vegetation removed
- graffiti removed
- illegal dumping removed
- signs installed, fencing installed or repaired
- homeless encampments removed
- pavement project coordination and
- other cooperative or joint projects

The activities in Caltrans' reports include their regular activities, as well as responses to lists provided by City staff of locations that require attention regarding weeds, homeless encampments, high litter areas, potholes, and fence repair. A list of locations serviced by Caltrans is attached as Attachment A.

Blight issues such as homeless encampments have been abated in a timely manner. Caltrans has installed signs to deter the homeless from camping. Caltrans has taken immediate action to remove combustible material around parcels in the Wildfire Prevention Assessment District that were under direct threat of fire damage. Routine maintenance such as street sweeping, graffiti removal, fence repair, and litter removal has also been performed in a timely manner. In addition, Caltrans' Adopt-A-Highway program has 20 volunteer groups that pick up litter in Oakland. This has reduced complaints of unsightly trash along the freeway.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

At the May 9, 2006, Public Works Committee, City Council members directed staff to continue working with Caltrans to maintain cleaning frequencies and maintenance issues as described:

1. Property maintenance to be based on regular schedules and not strictly complaint driven. *Caltrans maintenance schedule and service levels remain the same and are reflected in their monthly and semi-annual reports to Oakland (Attachment B). Their sweeping, trash removal and vegetation management are schedule driven. Graffiti removal, downed fences and illegal dumping are handled as they occur. Homeless encampments are now removed during the third week of each month. Caltrans also responds to complaints.*
2. Service contract with the East Bay Conservation Corps (EBCC). *There are six EBCC crews assigned to various projects. Two crews work in Alameda County.*
3. Adopt-A-Highway Program. *This remains an active program with 857 litter bags collected during this period.*
4. Caltrans herbicide/pesticide. *Spraying continues in medians and rights-of-way where there is no potential for public contact with herbicides.*
5. Clarification on who is responsible for property around freeway ramps. *Caltrans is generally responsible for removal of trash, litter and illegal dumping around freeway ramps. Freeway ramps at some point touch City rights-of-way so Caltrans and City crews coordinate on a case-by-case basis to clean up these locations.*

Attachment B is Caltrans' Progress Report for January through June 2007. The report highlights the following accomplishments:

- Rights-of-way swept – 926 miles
- Overgrown vegetation removed – 75.5 acres pruned

- Graffiti removed – 72,441 square feet cleaned
- Fencing repaired – 1,908 linear feet
- Homeless encampment removal – 184 sites cleared
- Adopt-A-Highway – 857 litter bags

During the six months covered by this report, the Caltrans Working Group has resolved complaints from the public in the many categories covered above. The Working Group has also worked on long-term solutions to particularly stubborn issues by being innovative and experimenting with new ideas. Some of those ideas included using steel fencing that could not be cut or bent to prevent illegal activity. A monthly schedule for homeless encampment removal was given to the group along with support from the California Highway Patrol and the Oakland Police Department. Graffiti was cleaned on an expedited schedule to remove tags quickly from high impact areas to lessen competition from other taggers.

On April 29, 2007, when the maze fire took place, Caltrans worked closely with the City during the crisis. Caltrans was supported by Oakland Fire, Police, Public Works, and other agencies and departments to ensure the safety of the traveling public around the damaged site. The repair of both structures was given high priority to be opened in short order and the goal was accomplished.

Staff believes that Caltrans continues to demonstrate its commitment to work collaboratively with the City by not only responding to and abating blight throughout Oakland in a timely manner but also by partnering and problem solving on other projects of mutual interest.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: The involvement of Caltrans staff in litter and debris removal and beautification will improve the physical appearance of the City 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, lessening pollution of our creeks and waterways.

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

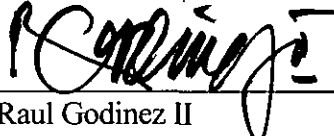
DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

The decreased amount of litter and increased beautification will improve the quality of life and safety for the disabled and senior citizens.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Accept this progress report on the Caltrans Letter of Understanding.

Respectfully submitted,



Raul Godinez II
Director, Public Works Agency

Reviewed by:
Brooke A. Levin
Assistant Director, Public Works Agency
Department of Facilities & Environment

Prepared by:
Jocelyn Combs
Public Works Agency
Department of Facilities & Environment

- Attachment A – Caltrans list of locations serviced
- Attachment B – Caltrans Progress Report, January through June 2007

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO
THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:



Office of the City Administrator

**Locations Serviced by Caltrans
January – June 2007**

Overgrown Veg./Fire Breaks	Fence Repair	Homeless
<p>S/B 13 Moraga Ave. Rt. 13 Redwood Rd. S/B 13 Park Blvd. Exit N/B 13 Lincoln Ave. Exit Rt. 13 Calaveras Rd. Rt. 13 Carson St. Rt. 13 Lincoln-Redwood, Monterey Rt. 13 Broadway Terr. W/B 24 MacArthur U.C. TO 40th Street. W/B 24 College Exit W/B 24 Broadway Exit E/B 24 Broadway & Cald.Tunnel (Cull de Sac) Rt. 24 Miles Street Rt. 24 Claremont and 42nd Street Rt. 24 55th St., 56th Street and Carberry Rt. 24 from 40th St. to 45th St. Rt. 24 Hiller and Tunnel Rd. Rt. 24 @ Rt. 13 Rt. 24 Tunnel Rd. and Caldecott Rt. 24 Golden Gate Ave. Rt. 24 Chabot Ct. W/B 580 Fountain St. – Seminary Ave. E/B 580 Oakland Ave. and Grand Ave. W/B 580 Foothill Blvd.- 98th Ave. W/B Keller Ave. E/B 580 106th Ave.- Foothill Blvd. E/B 580 Park Blvd. O.C.-38th Ave. W/B 580 Coolidge Ave.-Boston Ave. E/B 580 Lakeshore Rd. Rt. 580 Sutter St.-Coolidge-Maple Rt. 580 Seminary Ave- Edwards Ave Rt. 880 5th^{St.} & Oak St. Rt. 980 Sycamore-Northgate Rt. 980 23rd St. and M.L.K., Jr.</p>	<p>Rt. 13 Redwood Rd. Rt. 13 Monterey Rd. Rt. 13 Snake/Moraga Rt. 13 Lincoln/Mountain RT. 24 39th St. and MLK EB 24 JWO Caldecott Tunnel Rt. 24 Caldecott Lane Rt. 580 Seminary Rt. 580 Hollis and Hannah St. Rt. 580 Redding St. Rt. 580 Louise Street Rt. 580 Chatham St. EB 580 @ 150th St. EB 580 @ 106th St. WB 580 Mountain & Seq. Rt. 580 Edwards Ave. Rt. 580 Keller Ave. Rt. 580 Haven Street Rt. 580 Grand Avenue Rt. 880 Bernhardt Rt. 880 Oak Street Rt. 880 at 98th Ave. Rt. 880 66th Ave. Rt. 880 High Street Rt. 880 S/O High Street Rt. 880 5th St. and Jefferson Rt. 880 10th Ave. Rt. 880 N/O 10th Ave. Rt. 880 S/O 10th Ave. Rt. 880 N/O 16th Ave. Rt. 980 32nd St. and MLK Rt. 980 Sycamore/Northgate 29th St. and MLK Rt. 980 @ 23rd St. & M.L.K.</p>	<p>Rt. 24 55th St, 45th St, & Patton Rd. Rt. 24 @ 56th St. & Tele. Rt. 24 @ Telegraph On Rt. 77-880 E. 14th St. to High St. Rt. 580- Hollis and Peralta Rt. 580 36th St. and Market Rt. 580 Hannah, Louise and Ettie St. Rt. 580 Tele. & MLK Rt. 580 Coolidge-Boston Rt. 580 34th St. Rt. 580 Fruitvale Ave. Rt. 880 E. 9th & 37th St. Rt. 880-Webster-Harrison Rt. 880 Jackson St and Franklin Rt. 880 29th Ave., 23rd Ave Rt. 880- Broadway, Embar.& Harrison Rt. 880 @ 5th St. & Market Rt. 880 5th St. and Oak Rt. 880 High Street Rt. 980-23rd St.& MLK Rt. 980 @ Northgate Rt. 980 29th and MLK Rt. 980 Sycamore, 27th St. Rt. 980 11th St. and Brush St.</p>

Graffiti Removal

<p>N&S 13 at Redwood Rd. to Moraga SB 13 @ 39th and Aliso Rt. 13-Burns Dr. P.O.C. SB 13 Calaveras SB 13 JSO Redwood Rd. RT. 13 Broadway Terr. WB 24 Presley Way WB 24 JEO 580 EW 24 @ 580 Flyover WB 24 to S/B 13 Conn. Ramp WB 24 Golden Gate Rt. 24 at Kay O. C. EB 24 MacArthur to Hwy 13 EB 24 Forest, Locksley Rt. 24 College and Claremont WB 24 MacArthur Bart WB 24 56th St. and Carberry Rt. 24 @ M.L.K. WB 24 Chabot Rd. Rt. 24-40th Street Rt. 24-42nd Street Rt. 24-45th Street Rt. 24-46th Street Rt. 24-52nd Street Rt. 24-Shattuck Ave. WB 24 Grove St. on ramp NS 77 High St. to E. 14th WB 580 Davenport Ave. Rt. 580 MacArthur Blvd. EB 580 @ SB 13 WB 580 JWO High Street WB 580 Van Buren EB 580 JEO Fontaine at Oak Knoll EB 580 Birdsall P.O.C. E&W 580 at Oak-Harrison EB 580 at Seminary E&W MacArthur to 52nd St. WB 580 Seminary Ave. WB 580 at Grand Ave. WB 580 to E/B 80 Conn. Ramp Rt. 580-Lakeshore off ramp Rt. 580-Excelsior on ramp Rt. 580 JWO Park Blvd. Rt. 580 -Ardley Ave.</p>	<p>EB 580 at 35th Street Rt. 580 at Martin Luther King, Jr. EB 580 at Park Blvd. WB 580 @ WB 980 Conn. Ramp EB 580 Tele., MLK and Webster Rt. 580 32nd St. and Peralta Rt. 580 at Fontaine WB 580 JEO Fontaine/Oak Knoll Rt. 580 Keller Ave. WB 580 35th Ave. Rt. 580 Boston Ave. EB 580 Broadway/Webster Rt. 580- Champion St. Rt. 580 JWO Peralta Rt. 580-W. MacArthur Rt. 580-Broadway off ramp Rt. 580 Webster St. Rt. 580-106th Ave. Rt. 580-West Street Rt. 580 Maple Ave. Rt. 580-Coolidge Ave. Rt. 580-Hollis Street Rt. 580-14th Ave. NB 880 JNO 23rd Ave. NS 880 29th Ave. SB 880 JNO 23rd Ave. SB 880 JSO 98th Ave. Rt. 880 at 5th Ave. NB 880 to E/B 80 Flyover SB 880 Union Street NB 880 bet. 5th and 6th Streets 880 at Webster & 5th St. NB 880 66th Ave. NB 880 at High St. NB 880 Pine Street Rt. 880 Hegenberger SB 880 High St. Rt. 880 at 98th Ave Rt. 880-JSO High St. off ramp Rt. 880 bet. E. 7th and E. 9th St. Rt. 880-Fruitvale Ave. Rt. 880-7th Street Rt. 880-Webster Tube Rt. 880-Oak Street/Jackson St.</p>	<p>Rt. 880-16th Ave. Rt. 880-38th Ave. Rt. 880-35th Ave. Rt. 880-80 Jct. Rt. 880-W. Grand Ave.-7th St. exit NB 880 at 980 NB 880 Prescott Park RT. 980 23rd St. to 27th St. EB 980 @ 580 WB 980 27th Street WB 980 17th Street WB 980 at 27th St. WB 980 11th & 12th Street O.C. EB 980 27th Street EB 980 MLK and 25th St. EB 980 Sycamore St. WB 980 Sycamore St.</p>
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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**ATTACHMENT B**

*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

October 29, 2007

The Honorable Ignacio De La Fuente
City Council President
City Hall-One Frank Ogawa Plaza
Oakland, CA 94612


Dear Mr. De La Fuente

Enclosed is the last semi-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 January 1 2007 through June 30, 2007. Additional progress reports will now be provided annually, however this is the final semi-annual report as required by the LOU.

This fourth progress report summarizes the State's maintenance activities in the city for such activities as homeless encampment removal, cleanup of illegal dumping, graffiti removal, overgrown vegetation removal, fence repair, and sweeping of state right of way.

If you need any further information, please contact me at (510) 286-5900.

Sincerely


BIJAN SARTIPI
District Director

The Honorable Ignacio De La Fuente
October 29, 2007
Page 2

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION600 LEWELLING BLVD
SAN LEANDRO, CA 94579*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

PROGRESS REPORT

January 1, 2007 – June 30, 2007

This Progress Report is a summary of "Attachment A" reports that have been submitted for review at the monthly meetings with the City of Oakland, Public Works Department. This is the final semi-annual report as required by the Letter of Understanding between the State of California, Department of Transportation and the City of Oakland, Public Works Department.

During the past six months, the "working group" has resolved complaints from the public in numerous categories such as litter, graffiti and homeless. They have also worked on solutions to deter these activities by being innovative and experimenting with new ideas. Some of those ideas included using a steel fence that could not be cut or bent to prevent homeless activity. A monthly schedule for homeless removal was given to the "group" along with support from the California Highway Patrol and Oakland Police Department. Graffiti cleaning and removal was expedited in order to prevent similar copycat activities.

The Department worked cooperatively with the City of Oakland during the maze fire of April 29, 2007. This included support from Oakland Fire department, Oakland Police Department, City Administration and many other departments to ensure the safety of the traveling public around the crash site. The repair of both structures was given high priority and was completed in a short time, while using city streets to detour freeway traffic.

Listed below is a breakdown of maintenance activities from January to June 2007:

Activity	Production	Cost
Right of Way Swept	926 Miles Swept	\$178,922.00
Overgrown Veg./Fire Break	75.5 Acres Pruned	\$225,541.00
Graffiti Removal	72,441 Sq. Ft. Cleaned	\$33,001.00
Fencing Repaired	1908 Linear Feet	\$64,090.00
Homeless Removal	184 Sites	\$68,389.00
Adopt – A – Hwy	857 Litter Bags	\$7,42.00
	Total	\$577,685.00