

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: September 14, 2019

TO: Honorable Nury Martinez, Chair
Honorable Paul Koretz, Vice Chair
Honorable Paul Krekorian, Member
Honorable Gil Cedillo, Member
Honorable Mitch O'Farrell, Member
Energy, Climate Change and
Environmental Justice Committee

FROM: Enrique C. Zaldivar, Director and General Manager
LA Sanitation and Environment



SUBJECT: LA SANITATION AND ENVIRONMENT - REQUEST FOR MOBILE HYGIENE SERVICES AND ADDITIONAL OVERTIME FUNDING FOR LIVABILITY SERVICES DIVISION – CARE PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

This document is submitted as a follow-up report to the discussion held on August 20, 2019 at the Energy, Climate Change and Environmental Justice committee hearing. During the committee hearing, LA Sanitation and Environment provided a verbal update relative to Livability Services efforts including Clean Streets LA (CSLA)/Homeless Outreach and Proactive Engagement (HOPE) enhanced deployment efforts, transition to new deployment models and other efforts related to illegal dumping, under the Comprehensive Cleaning and Rapid Engagement (CARE) Program.

On June 25, 2019, the City Council approved and authorized the Recommendations detailed in the June 14, 2019 LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN) report, Three Budget & Finance Questions Regarding a Deployment Plan for HOPE/CSLA Teams, Designated Livability Teams, and Supervisors in the FY 2019-2020 Budget. These Recommendations presented a comprehensive approach designed to address the growing public health and environmental concerns related to homeless encampments and illegal dumping in the City of Los Angeles.

By authorizing this new regional deployment plan that leverages the increased number of Livability Service Teams in the FY 2019-2020 budget and provides a platform for a public health infrastructure, the City will be better able to tackle the sanitation and livability needs of unsheltered residents as well as those of the surrounding communities at large.

Among numerous efforts to prepare for an October 1, 2019 launch of the new deployment plan, and pursuant to various City Council Instructions, LASAN has:

- 1) Utilized approved overtime staff funding for collection of illegal dumped items. Metrics available thus far demonstrate that LASAN collected twice the amount of illegally dumped items in July 2019 compared with the same month of the previous year.
- 2) Coordinated with LASAN's colleagues in the Unified Homelessness Response Center (UHRC), and the City Administrative Officer (CAO) to identify funding for, and purchase of mobile hygiene centers.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council

1. Approve the addition of 13 resolution authorities within LASAN for Maintenance Laborers (3112-6) and increase LASAN's Fund 100 1010 Salaries General budget by \$531,712 for staffing of mobile hygiene units.
2. Increase LASAN's fund 100 3090 Field Equipment budget by \$112,992 for the rental of vehicles for the transportation of mobile hygiene units.
3. Direct the City Administrative Officer (CAO) to work with LASAN to identify additional funding for contractual services for the operation of the Hygiene Centers by a Non-Profit Community Benefit Organization.)
4. Approve \$750,000 for overtime to continue the enhanced services and cover any contingency costs for prepping for the launch of the CARE program.

A more detailed examination of these recommendations follows.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Mobile Hygiene Unit

As laid out in the June 14, 2019 report, the provision of mobile hygiene services to the unsheltered population is part of the new Comprehensive Cleaning and Rapid Engagement (CARE+) deployment model. LASAN is targeting the launch of the first unit of the Mobile Hygiene Unit program as it begins regional deployment of the new CARE and CARE+ Teams starting October 1, 2019. These Mobile Hygiene Units will include three (3) showers and three (3) restrooms, one of which will be ADA compliant. The Livability Services Division (LSD) expects to take possession of the first unit in late September with the goal of having this unit available for use prior to the October 1, 2019 launch of the CARE/CARE+ program. Five (5) additional mobile hygiene units are expected to arrive in November 2019, and an additional seven (7) units by February 2020. LASAN has worked closely with the CAO and the Mayor's Budget team to identify MICLA funding to cover the cost of the trailers.

In order to facilitate the deployment of the Mobile Hygiene Center pilot, LSD has identified the need for 13 additional Maintenance Laborers to assist in towing and hook-ups of the trailers, and the need for an experienced third party contractor to provide engagement support with the unsheltered population.

The responsibilities of the maintenance laborer will include, but are not limited to the following:

- Driving the Mobile Hygiene Unit from an LASAN facility to various CARE+ comprehensive cleanup locations throughout the city.
- Towing the Mobile Hygiene Center behind a pick-up truck vehicle.
- Making the Mobile Hygiene Center available for use by contractual staff during a CARE+ comprehensive cleanup. That may include:
 - Connecting/Disconnecting to a sewer discharge point for the discharge of wastewater
 - Connecting/Disconnecting to a LAFD Fire Hydrant for potable water access
 - Making the Mobile Hygiene Center ready for travel at the end of operations
 - Returning the Mobile Hygiene Center to an LASAN facility
- Discharging any residual wastewater not already discharged during daily CARE+ comprehensive cleanup operations
- Ensuring that the vehicle and the Mobile Hygiene Center are in good working order free of mechanical defects or needing repairs.

LASAN is currently under discussions with the existing Board of Public Works Pit Stop contract staff to provide those additional services not provided by LASAN staff. Those services include, but are not limited to:

- Engagement and additional services to the unsheltered population at any CARE+ comprehensive cleanup where the Mobile Hygiene Center is deployed.
- Provide hygiene services to unsheltered population.
- Inspect, clean and make available for use, restrooms, showers and laundry services to unsheltered population.
- Cleaning and daily set-up of the portable public restroom facilities at each of the bathrooms. Cleaning tasks are to be monitored using a set task and Cleaning Supplies List
- Ensure safe usage of the each bathroom by members of the public;
- Enforce courtesy rules and report any damage or misuse of the bathrooms to the City;
- Secure the bathrooms in the event that any of them become unusable due to damage or vandalism;
- Possibly manage the collection of waste (needles, trash, and hazardous waste) at any CARE+ comprehensive cleanup locations;
- Providing bathroom attendants to serve as an “Ambassador” and assist the needs of the public, such as, but not limited to, answering questions, providing directions, etc. in a respectful and professional manner; and
- Provide hygiene amenities such as shampoo, soap, towels, etc.

In order to fulfill this services-led approach in a timely manner, LASAN is requesting an appropriation of \$644,704 to quickly acquire the necessary staff to operate, service and maintain, as well as connect the Mobile Hygiene Units to any necessary water, sewer or additional utility connections as necessary.

13 Maintenance Laborers (3112-6) \$531,712

13 Tow Trucks (Rental) \$112,992

This appropriation ensures that each Mobile Hygiene Unit will have sufficient staff and equipment necessary to operate smoothly and efficiently for the immediate future. For the first unit launching in October, LASAN is utilizing existing personnel to cover the initial operation but requires dedicated staff to effectively manage the program. To cover this unit and the five (5) additional units set to arrive in November 2019, LASAN has requested 9 months funding to cover staff and equipment. In addition, LASAN is requesting 6 months funding for the latter seven (7) units expected to arrive in February 2020. The total cost of consultant services and supplies for these 13 units amounts to the \$1.7M requested. Proposed staffing for Maintenance Laborers whom in effect will be Wastewater Workers I – in training as the intent is for them to eventually transition to WWII in other areas of LASAN.

Overtime Funding for Extended Services

In June 14, 2019, LASAN requested \$1,438,624 to cover overtime for expanding services citywide. This appropriation was a result of the need for extended services to be deployed while LASAN continued to provide a higher level of service for illegal dumping collection citywide. LASAN began a hiring drive to be fully deployed for the new CARE/CARE+ teams set to start operations October 1, 2019.

On July 3, 2019 the City Council approved Council File 19-0600-S89; amending motion 51B was approved for partial funding of \$746,580.64 with the request to return for the remainder. This amount allowed LASAN to continue the enhanced deployment of the livability teams for the first three months (July, August, September) of Fiscal Year 2019-20 until the new teams are deployed.

The method for determining staff deployment was analysis of historic CleanStat data as well as Service Request (SR) data. This allowed LASAN to determine high need locations experiencing chronic illegal dumping. The results of the enhanced services produced twice the tonnage in July 2019 compared to that in the same month the prior year.

July 2018	Illegal Dumping Tonnage: 758.12 tons
July 2019	Illegal Dumping Tonnage: 1,533.09 tons

The tonnage of abandoned waste removed citywide through this proactive work has effectively doubled our tonnage. LSD produced 1,600 proactive service requests, which reflects work completed by LASAN that was not reported through the MyLA311 Service Request platforms.

As of August 31, \$581,289 has been expended. Based on this expenditure rate, the approved funding for this enhanced service will be exhausted prior to the October 1 CARE launch and there will be no overtime available for the rest of the fiscal year. LASAN is requesting additional Salaries - Overtime appropriation of \$750,000 to have as a contingency for the remaining of the fiscal year for emergency response and additional services when the situation requires it. Requests for illegal dumping occur after normal operating hours and on weekends that require an immediate response for service and the overtime funding will allow LASAN the flexibility to promptly respond to these requests from each of the five (5) regional deployment sites.

Furthermore, scheduled service days frequently go beyond the 8 hour normal day due to unexpected complexities. LASAN makes every effort to complete a service day on the scheduled day to avoid the costs of remobilizing the teams for a second day.

STATUS OF FINANCING

The total funding for this project is not to exceed \$1,394,704 from the General Fund. The CAO will work with LASAN to identify the specific source of funds.

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- c: Members of the City Council
 - Ana Guerrero, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
 - Matt Szabo, Deputy Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
 - Barbara Romero, Deputy Mayor, Mayor's Office of City Services
 - Miguel Sangalang, Deputy Mayor, Mayor's Office of Budget and Innovation
 - Christina Miller, Deputy Mayor, City Homeless Initiatives
 - Greg Good, Chief of Legislative and External Affairs, Mayor's Office
 - Sharon Tso, CLA
 - Richard Llewellyn, Jr., CAO
 - Kevin James, President, BPW
 - Cecilia Cabello, Vice President, BPW
 - LASAN Executive Team