

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: April 23, 2020

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 (LASAN) - REPORT BACK ON MULTIPLE ITEMS - Coronavirus Outbreak / Skid Row / Hygiene / Public Health Outreach and Engagement Strategy, Coronavirus Outbreak / Covid-19 / Los Angeles Department of Public Health / Protocols / Living Encampments / Serving Encampments, Coronavirus / COVID-19 / Hygiene Facilities / Acquisition, (CF#20-0147, 20-0147-S3, 20-0147-S21, 20-0147-S52, 19-1234)

On March 17, 2020, the City Council requested LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN) to report back on multiple motions regarding the Coronavirus global pandemic along with plans for servicing critical hygiene facilities across the city including Skid Row, increasing illegal dumping collection activities, and accounting for "Safer at Home" recommendations related to homeless encampments in the City of Los Angeles.

Background

On March 4, 2020 the City Council heard a report from the Los Angeles County Health Department on the potential effect of the coronavirus on the residents in the City of Los Angeles.

By early March, the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) had spread globally to over 70 countries, infecting more than 92,800 persons and killing more than 3,160 individuals worldwide. Further, on March 4, 2020, The Mayor issued a "Declaration of Local Emergency" under the authority granted by Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 8.27 as the coronavirus presented the existence of a local emergency. On March 19, Mayor Garcetti issued the Safer at Home Public Order ordering most residents to remain in their home.

At the March 17, 2020 meeting of the City Council heard motion CF: 20-0147 (Koretz, Blumenfield) as well as several amending motions that were introduced including amendments

requesting LASAN to install needed hand washing sanitation stations at homeless encampments; CF:20-0147 (24-A, O'Farrell, Rodriguez), and also temporarily suspending enforcement of provisions under Los Angeles Municipal Code 56.11; CF:20-0147-S21 (72-P, 72-P-A, Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Huizar, Koretz, Buscaino, Martinez) and an instruction to acquire additional hygiene facilities to address the coronavirus pandemic; CF:20-0147-S52 (Blumenfield, Krekorian).

CF:20-0147: LASAN's Response to the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic

LASAN quickly mobilized internal resources to address the global pandemic at the local level. Livability Services Division (LSD) distributed hand sanitizer, Personal Protective Equipment including Tyvek suits, Nitrile Gloves, and N95 Respirator Face Masks to essential, non-deferrable field crews including all staff in LSD. Additionally, LSD shared supplies of PPE and best practices with other frontline service divisions within LASAN. In support of this effort, LASAN's own laboratory staff at Environmental Monitoring Division began to synthesize and produce LASANitizer, LASAN's own brand sanitizer. LASANitizer was distributed to staff assigned to essential service divisions across the utility as part of department issued equipment to ensure continuity of operations.

During this pandemic, LSD has also assisted the Unified Homeless Response Center (UHRC) efforts to provide shelter services at Recreation and Park (RAP) facilities to the unsheltered community. LSD has deployed and expanded the Mobile Hygiene program, providing showers at RAP locations that lack on-site shower facilities. Under this assistance, LSD has expanded the program to quickly provide staff, resources, and equipment to RAP rented shower units. Currently LSD is providing expanded shower services at 10 RAP facilities while incorporating elements of the regular Mobile Hygiene Shower Service to continue providing showers and services to those still living on the streets. Additionally, other frontline service division's within LASAN have stepped up and are providing guidance, expertise, and services like never before.

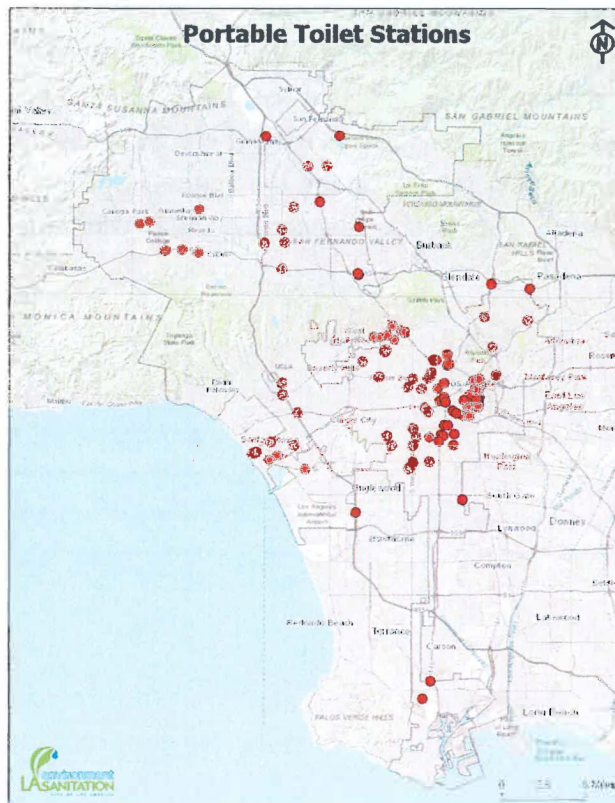
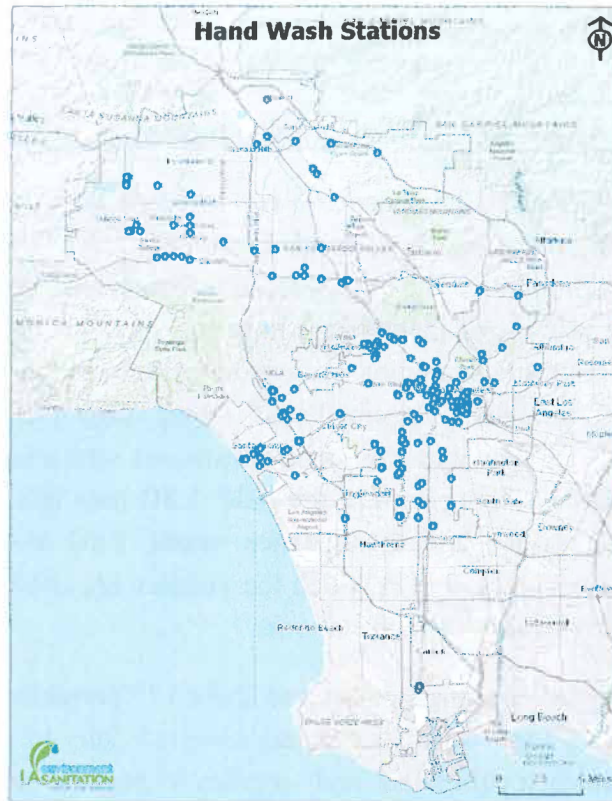
LASAN staff in Watershed Protection is coordinating LASAN internal resources and assisting with the setting up the shelter facilities with necessary services. The Clean Water Conveyance divisions are providing sewer disposal services; the Support Services division has coordinated along with Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant the moving of over 300 recreational vehicles for use at these facilities. Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant has also provided staff to review and where needed, provide repair services to recreational vehicles and equipment so that those needing shelter are provided for. Additionally, Environmental Compliance Inspectors (ECIs) across multiple divisions within the utility including recycLA, Industrial Waste Management, and Watershed Protection have been identified and quickly received additional training so that they can screen personal property for health hazards at these RAP facilities prior to intake. This provides the highest safety standards for those who are providing services and sheltering in these facilities.

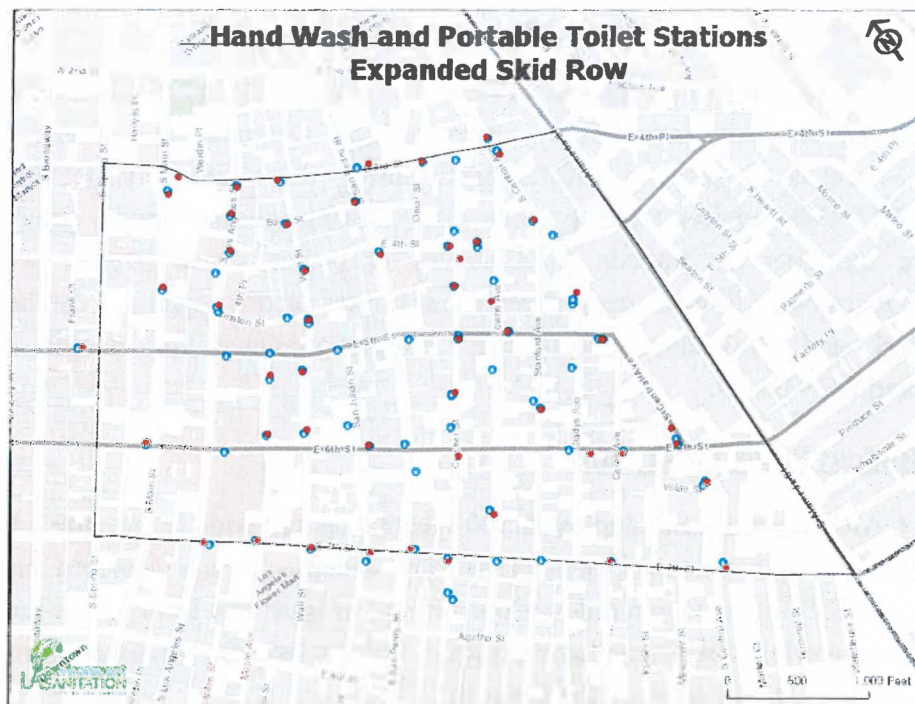
The ability to quickly adapt, respond and serve are functions built out of the elasticity of operations within LASAN.

CF:20-0147 (24-A), 20-0147-S3, 20-0147-S52: Citywide Sanitation Station Network

At the outset of the city's COVID-19 response, in coordination with the Mayor's UHRC, LSD immediately distributed hundreds of bottles of hand sanitizer to encampments to begin combating the virus. Additionally, LSD CleanStat Street Indexing crews immediately transitioned and began the process of identifying, indexing, and servicing pre-deployed mobile hand washing and mobile restroom sanitation stations at encampments across the city including Skid Row and other highly impacted Special Focus Zones. LSD maintains a comprehensive database of the hand wash stations and the mobile restroom sanitation stations which shows those to be existing and actively being used in the field. LSD uses this database to collect data pertaining to the stations' service and maintenance needs. LSD also analyzes the data to determine locations with recurring issues in which the vendors are notified same day for proper servicing in maintaining the usability of such stations.

To date, about 300 mobile hand washing stations and about 170 portable toilet stations have been deployed across the city. The hand wash stations are assessed daily to ensure they are working properly and have the necessary equipment and supplies to provide service to the unsheltered population. The portable toilet stations in the Skid Row area are assessed daily. If the equipment is not functioning properly or if its supplies like water, soap, and paper towel levels are low or are absent, LSD notifies, daily, the vendors that service is necessary. While this service has quickly accelerated, LSD expects to provide this crucial component to public health for the long term. In addition to LSD providing staff to index the stations and notifying the vendors of the identified service related issues, LSD is also dispatching ECIs who clean and disinfect the hand washing units once a week.





With some 300 hand wash stations and some 170 portable toilet units having been deployed across the city, and LSD providing comprehensive service, it does come at the expense of the CleanStat Street Indexing Program. The CleanStat Program is responsible for grading each and every street and providing a cleanliness rating, identifying those streets and areas that need varying levels of attention. Recently, CleanStat relaunched, and in addition to identifying the locations of encampments, it enhanced its data collection to provide information on the services needed by the unsheltered community. The enhanced data collection assists with the deployment of staff and resources to address health hazards in the public right of way, enhancing and improving reporting to Council Districts. To respond to the recent call for additional services and to a recent court order with respect to the city's COVID-19 response, the CleanStat Street Indexing Program has been placed on hold to assist in the response. The CleanStat Program, being halted, does reduce the amount of proactively collected bulky items and illegal dumping identified through CleanStat.

While providing about 300 hand washing stations is a great start at providing these services at encampment locations, the need to expand this service is clear.

Utilizing the last round of CleanStat 2.0 data, LSD can project an additional 320 locations across the city that can receive the hand washing sanitation units.

The projected costs to increase the service to 320 additional locations:

320 Hand Washing Units Total	Unit Cost \$53.00 / Week	Total \$ 16,960 / Week
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CF:20-0147-S21 (72-P, 72-P-A) Temporary Order regarding 56.11

In response to the instruction from the City Council in council file 20-0147, amending motions 72-P, and 72-P-A, LASAN immediately instructed all Cleaning and Rapid Engagement (CARE/CARE+) crews to suspend enforcement, during the emergency declaration, of the provision of 56.11 that requires tents to come down during daytime hours, provided that the location of the tent does not impede ADA access, or is not within 10 feet of an operable driveway. This instruction from Council preceded a similar recommendation by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention when they issued guidance for people experiencing homelessness and COVID-19.

CF: 19-1234 Rodent Proof Trash Cans

As part of the CARE launch, LSD deployed 500 receptacles citywide to provide a much needed trash service plan to the unhoused population. The receptacles are serviced regularly each morning by the CARE Teams which reduces the amount of trash and litter on the public right-of-way. An enhanced model to the receptacle program will include the deployment of (38) rodent proof trash receptacles at two separate locations in CD11:

- Venice and Globe
- 3rd and Rose

The estimated cost of (38) rodent proof trash receptacles is \$49,234.04

Recommendation

LASAN recommends Council approve the proposed expansion along with funding (to be identified) for the rental of 320 additional hand washing stations for the remainder of FY19/20.

- Total projected cost for the rental of 320 hand wash stations for eight weeks is \$135,680.
- The total cost of the trash receptacles is \$49,234.04

Upon approval by Council, LASAN can quickly mobilize and procure the identified inventory, and process reimbursement thru the CAO.

Thank you in advance for your continued support of LASAN. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any of these items further, please feel free to contact me or Jose P. Garcia, Assistant Director, at (213) 485-2210.

c: Members of the City Council
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 Matt Szabo, Deputy Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
 Barbara Romero, Deputy Mayor, Mayor's Office of City Services
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