



Environmental Report: *Efforts and Challenges*

October 20, 2015



Order of Presentation

- Background & Information (Facts and Figures)
- What we're doing now (PDR)
 - Statistical information
 - Examples
- What we'd like to do (PDR)
 - Areas to expand services
- What are our needs (PDR)
- What we're doing now (DPW)
 - Statistical information
 - Examples
- What we'd like to do (DPW)
 - Areas to expand services
- What are our needs (DPW)

Unique, Healthy & Inclusive Neighborhoods & Communities

- Programs and Services align with vision and strategic direction of City
- Impacts quality of life issues
- Supports clean and safe communities
- Generates economic vitality
- Responsible for enforcement of ordinances

City Code Chapter 38

Article IV - Refuse, Litter and Weed Control

- **Sec. 38-151. – UNLAWFUL DUMPING.**

Unlawful to dispose of trash, garbage, refuse, litter, junk, demolition materials, hazardous wastes, etc., on or in

- Public property
- Public highways
- Right-of-ways
- Private property, without consent of owner
- Drainage ditch, culvert, pipe, storm drain
- Any waters within the city

(Class 1 misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than \$2,500 or jail time)

- **Primarily a Police function with DPW collection**
- **Not a PDR function**

Ordinances - Trash

- **Sec. 38-152. - Unlawful accumulation.**

It shall be unlawful for any person who owns or occupies property within the city to permit the accumulation of trash, garbage, refuse, litter, junk, demolition materials or other offensive, unwholesome, unsightly, unsanitary or unhealthy substances on such property or on any alley, sidewalk, public right-of-way, grass strips, or street abutting such property.

Ordinances - Trash

- **Sec. 38-153. - Exceptions.**

Sections [38-151](#) and [38-152](#) shall not apply to the following:

- (1) Legally authorized junk dealers or persons legally authorized to repair, rebuild, recondition or salvage
- (2) A landfill operated by the city
- (3) A legally authorized private landfill
- (4) Trash, garbage, refuse, litter and other similar substances, both commercial and noncommercial, while in containers approved by the director of public works or bulk items, the collection of which has been prearranged with the director of public works
- (5) Trash, garbage, refuse, litter and other similar substances while stored in containers approved by the director of public works, but not for collection by the city

Ordinances – Weeds and Grass

- **Sec. 38-154. - Weeds and other vegetation.**

(a) It shall be a misdemeanor for any person who owns or occupies property within the city to permit any grass, plant, bushes, weeds or any other vegetation 12 inches high or over, other than trees, shrubbery, agricultural plants, garden vegetables, flowers or ornamental plants, to exist on such property.

(b) It shall be a misdemeanor for any person who owns or occupies property within the city to permit the existence on such property of any live or dead hedge, shrub, tree or other vegetation, any part of which extends or protrudes into any street, sidewalk, public right-of-way, grass strip or alley so as to obstruct or impede or threaten the safe and orderly movement of persons or vehicles.

(c) It shall be a misdemeanor for any person who owns or occupies property within the city to permit any grass, plants, bushes, weeds or any other vegetation 12 inches high or over, other than trees, shrubbery, agricultural plants, garden vegetables, flowers or ornamental plants, to exist on any sidewalk, public right-of-way, or grass strip adjacent to such property or unimproved street or alley (to the centerline of such unimproved street or alley).

(d) It shall be a misdemeanor for any person who owns or occupies property within the city to fail to remove fallen trees, detached limbs, or branches, the accumulation of which is offensive, unwholesome, and unsightly.

Ordinance Challenges

- Trash ordinance is inconsistent with other ordinances related to right-of-way responsibility.
 - **Sec. 38-152:** It shall be unlawful for any person who owns or occupies property within the city to permit the accumulation of trash, garbage, refuse, litter, junk, demolition materials or other offensive, unwholesome, unsightly, unsanitary or unhealthy substances on such property **or on any alley, sidewalk, public right-of-way, grass strips, or street abutting such property.**
 - Who is responsible? Is it everyone on the block, or just the person the accumulation is directly adjacent to?

City Code Chapter 38

Article IV - Refuse, Litter and Weed Control

- Grass ordinances are confusing and appear to be contradictory.

(a) It shall be a misdemeanor for any person who owns or occupies property within the city to permit any grass, plant, bushes, weeds or any other vegetation 12 inches high or over, **other than trees, shrubbery, agricultural plants, garden vegetables, flowers or ornamental plants, to exist on such property.**

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(d) It shall be a misdemeanor for any person who owns or occupies property within the city to fail to remove fallen trees, detached limbs, or branches, the accumulation of which is **offensive, unwholesome, and unsightly.**

Environmental Report: *Efforts and Challenges*

Planning and Development Review



PDR Background and Operations

- Statistical Information

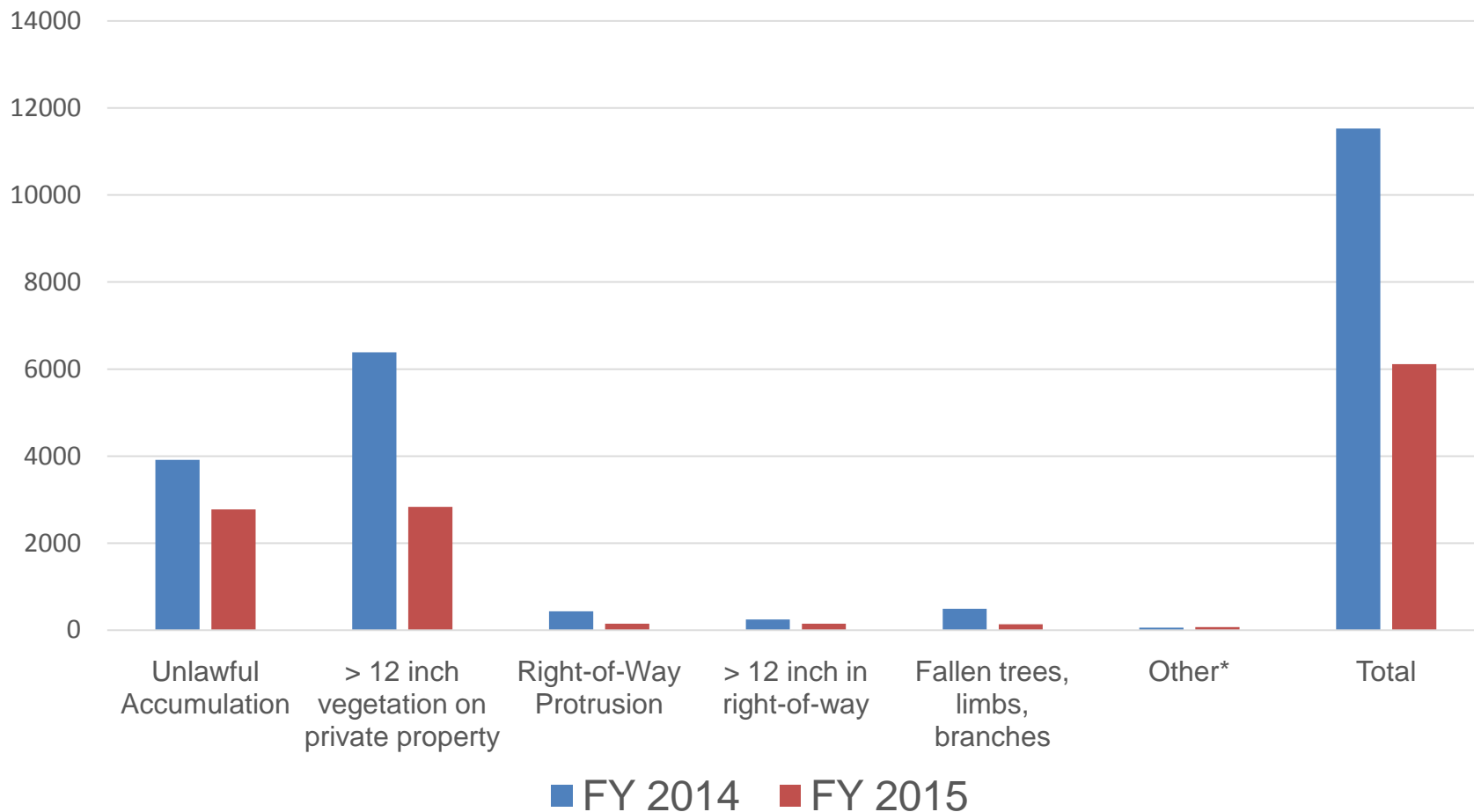
- FY14

- How many environmental requests did we handle in FY14?
 - 11,532
 - How many requests became environmental cases that required contractor abatement?
 - 1,324
 - How much did it cost?
 - \$274,511.72

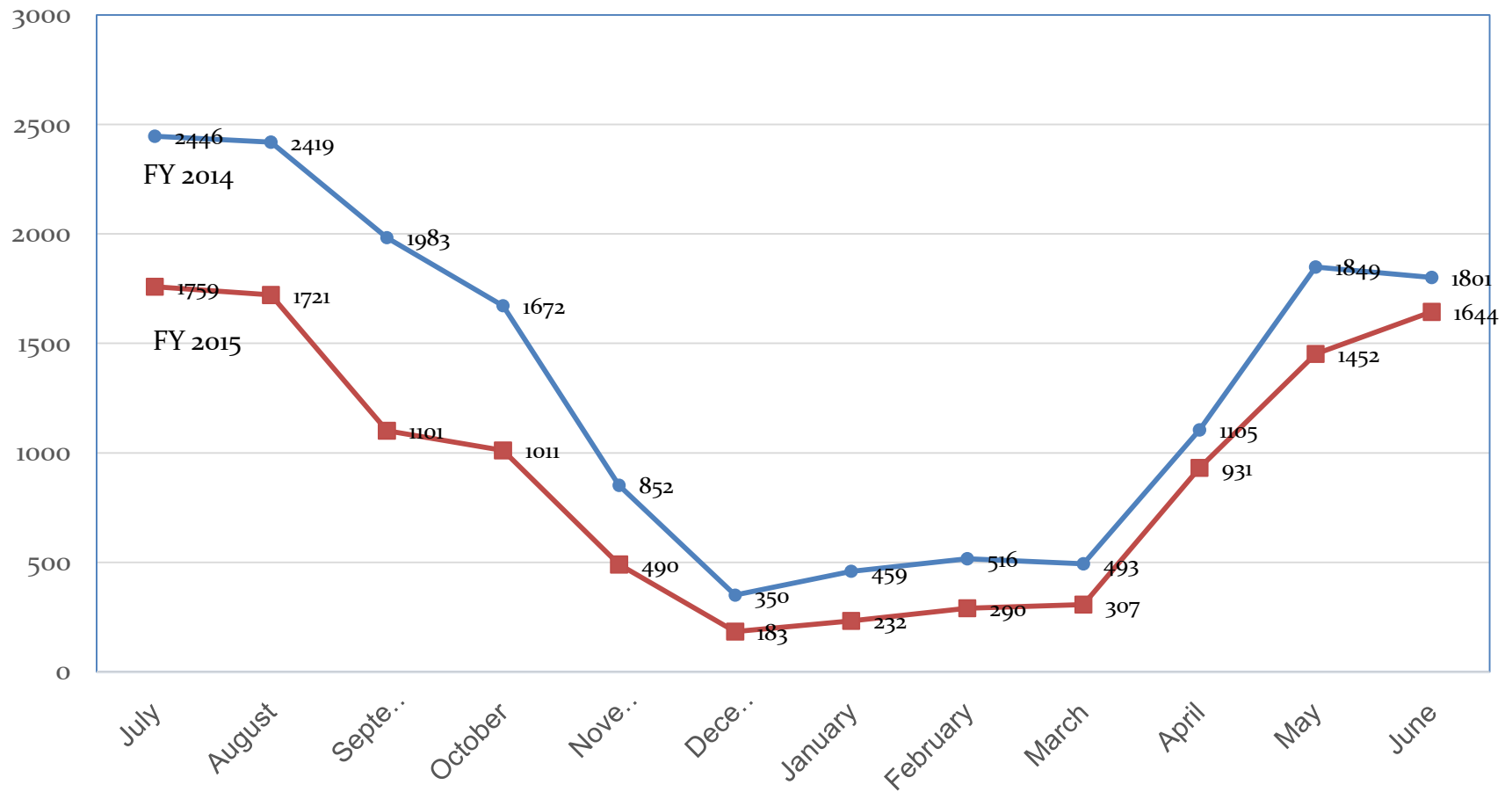
- FY15

- How many environmental requests did we handle in FY15?
 - 6,122
 - How many requests became environmental cases that required contractor abatement?
 - 2,896
 - How much did it cost?
 - \$578,652.03

Code Enforcement Requests



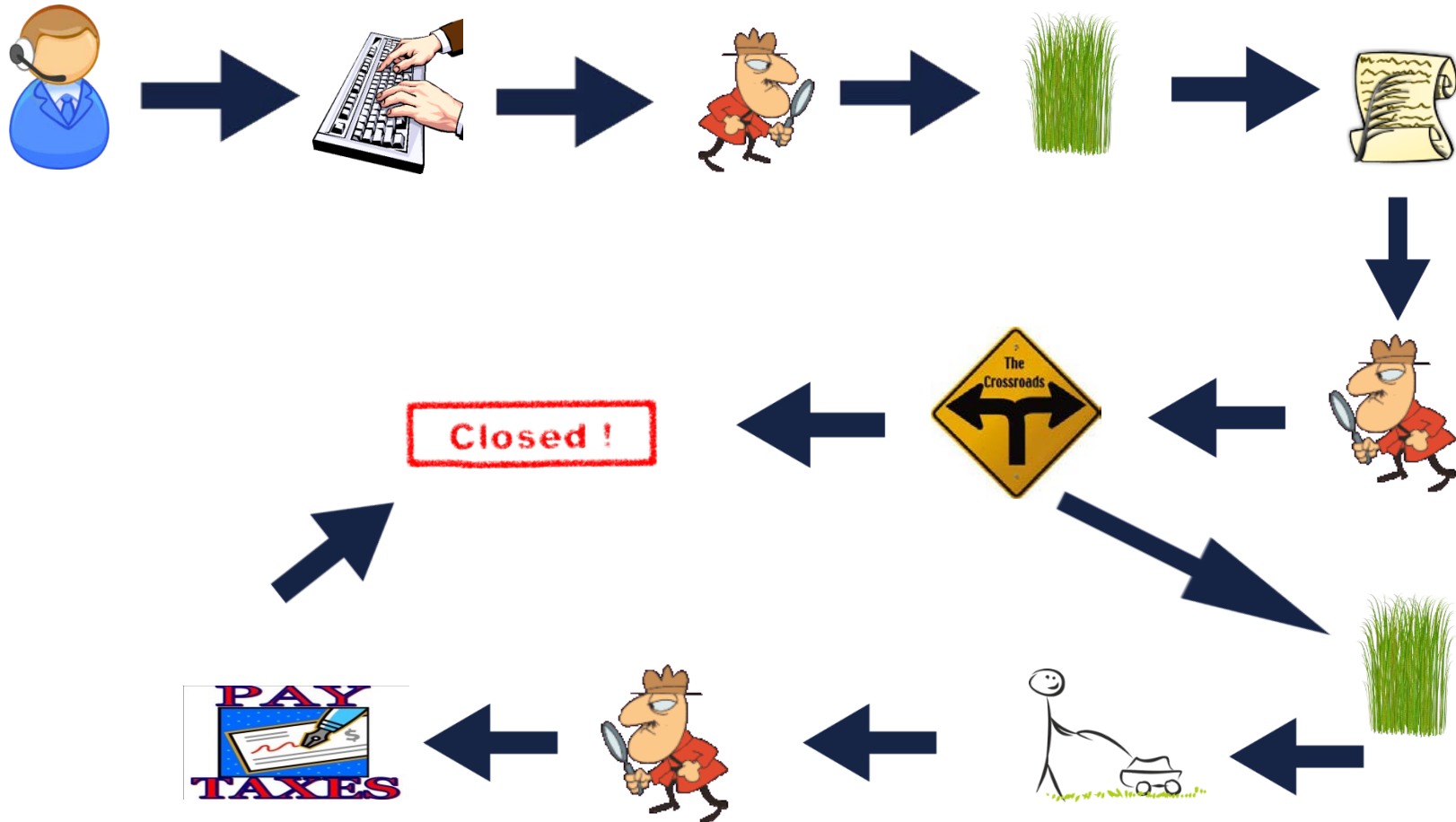
Requests by Month – FY 14 & 15



Case History by Quarter

FY 14-15	SCF Cases	CE Cases	Owner Abated	Abated By Contractor	Abatement Costs
1 st Qtr	185	650	111	835	\$179,089.78
2 nd Qtr	347	1407	251	1754	\$353,647.92
3 rd Qtr	1	79	7	80	\$10,797.70
4thQtr	58	169	17	227	\$35,116.63
Total	591	2305	386	2896	\$578,652.03

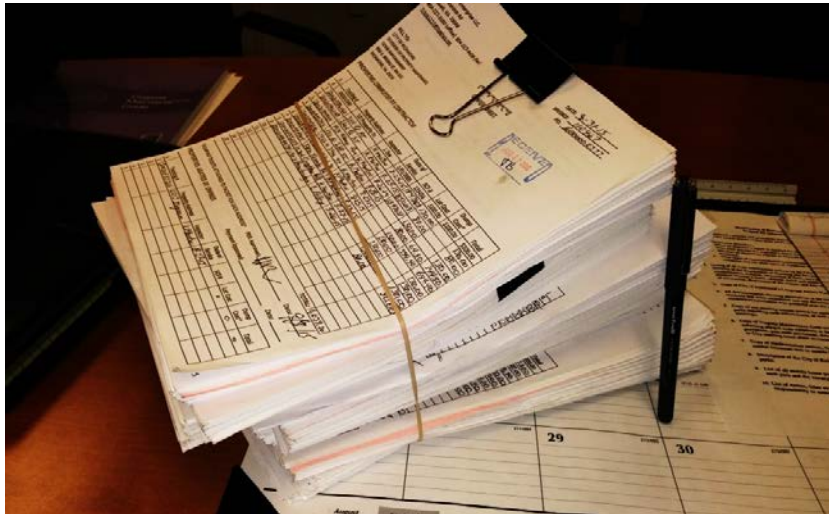
Case Work Flow Chart Sample



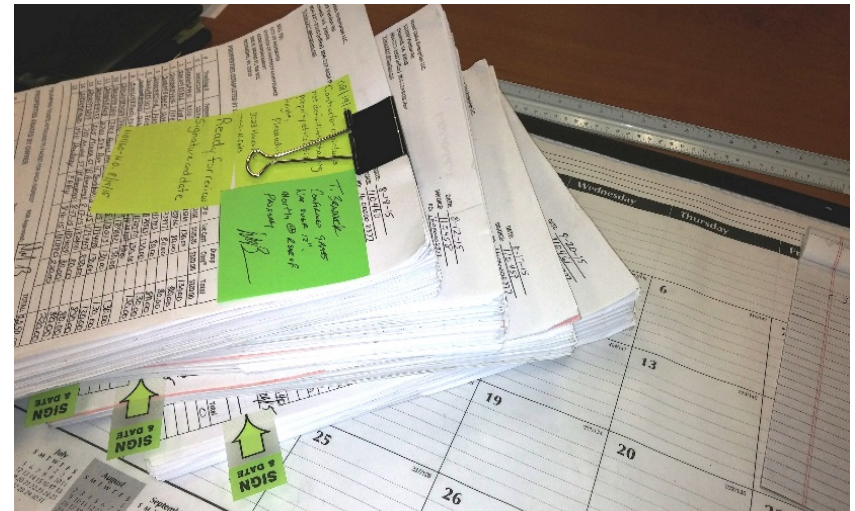
Typical Requests Volume

INVOICES FOR GRASS CUTTING AND TRASH COLLECTION

This stack of invoices covers eight (8) working days and represents nearly \$12,000 dollars in billable invoices, or approximately \$1,700 per day



This stack of invoices covers five (5) working days and represents nearly \$9,000 dollars in billable invoices, or approximately \$1,600 per day



Typical Grass Complaints



Before



After

Unusual Grass Request

After



Before



Unusual Trash Request



Before

After



Unusual Trash Request



Before



After

Illegal Dumping

Before



After

PDR - What We ARE Doing

- Code Enforcement Reorganization – Changed the way the Division handles environmental complaints
- Contract bidding moved from the middle of grass season to the winter
- Coordination with Public Works to support their trash accumulation efforts

PDR - What We Would LIKE to Do

- Streamline the process for habitual offenders
- Be more proactive with both grass and trash inspections
- Add to our community outreach efforts to ensure citizens understand their role in maintaining a clean, safe and attractive city

PDR – What We NEED

- Funding to fill authorized vacancies
- Clear plain language ordinances that eliminate apparent conflicts and are easy for both inspectors and the general public to understand
- Funding for environmental activities
 - Contractor funding
 - Cameras and misc equipment

Environmental Report:

Efforts and Challenges

Department of
Public Works



City Code Chapter 86

Solid Waste

- **Sec. 86-44. – TIMES AND PLACES OF COLLECTION**

Bulk items; brush collection; collections of loose leaves.

(b) Upon request, the director of public works shall schedule the collection of bulk items such as furniture or similar large items at no charge...



City Code Chapter 38

Article IV - Refuse, Litter and Weed Control

Sec. 38-151. - Unlawful dumping...(a)

It shall be unlawful for any person to dump or otherwise dispose of trash, garbage, refuse, litter, junk, demolition materials, hazardous wastes or other offensive, unwholesome, unsightly, unsanitary or unhealthy substances on public property, including in any waters within the city, a public highway, drainage ditch, culvert, pipe, storm drain, right-of-way, property adjacent to such highway or right-of-way, or on private property, without the written consent of the owner thereof or the owner's agent.



DPW – What We ARE Doing

- Budget Supports One Crew = 2 Employees
Consist of One (1) RTO, and
One (1) Refuse Collector (Temps)
- One Crew is capable of completing, on average,
**15 tickets per day, or approximately
400 tickets per month.**
(This varies in accordance to what is actually on the ground at each location.)
- City has received more than 13,000 request in 2015, ranging from 900 to 2,900 per month.

DPW – What We ARE Doing

Number of Request Per Month for Bulk & Brush

Calendar Year 2015	New Request	Closed
January	941	695
February	643	649
March	1,194	674
April	1,543	1,074
May	1,445	1,726
June	1,964	1,822
July	2,289	1,818
August	2,916	2,630
September		
October		
November		
December		
2015 Totals	12,935	11,088

DPW – What We ARE Doing

Bulk and Brush has a significant amount of historical data, which is used to project the needs for additional staffing levels and/or OT during the peak periods of **June – August**.

Month	FY2013		FY2014		FY2015	
	New Request	Closed	New Request	Closed	New Request	Closed
July	2,791	2,827	2,749	2,496	2,282	1,951
August	2,806	2,906	2,197	3,101	1,502	2,754
September	2,026	1,978	1,724	1,921	1,371	1,132
October	1,608	1,857	1,400	1,280	1,279	1,164
November	1,142	1,336	988	1,132	744	1,080
December	1,210	836	780	1,097	730	1,268
January	1,351	1,054	863	761	941	695
February	1,233	1,589	966	841	643	649
March	1,324	1,662	1,283	1,214	1,194	674
April	2,174	1,604	1,653	1,413	1,543	1,074
May	2,118	1,696	1,889	1,377	1,445	1,726
June	2,250	1,913	2,340	1,940	1,964	1,822
Totals	22,033	21,258	18,832	18,573	15,638	15,989



DPW – What We ARE Doing

The primary causes of the quantity of requests, have been attributed to:

1. Spring cleaning
2. College move in/out
3. Storm debris



The primary factors contributing to the quantity of completed requests, are attributed to:

1. Solid Waste Overtime Expenditures
2. Multi-Divisional Support from throughout DPW

DPW – What We would LIKE to do

- Close request in a more timely fashion

- The operation closes an estimated 15 tickets per crew.
- **The DPW goal is to close all request within 14 calendar days.**
- Only 40% of requests are being met within that set timeframe.

Weeks In Queue	%	# of OPEN Tickets	Age of OPEN Bulk & Brush Tickets
7	4.3%	77	8/2-8/8
6	6.4%	115	8/9-8/15
5	19.6%	350	8/16-8/22
4	12.4%	222	8/23-8/29
3	17.4%	311	8/30-9/5
2	20.4%	364	9/6-9/12
1	19.5%	348	9/13-9/19
Total OPEN as of 9/18/2015	100%	1,787	

DPW – What We would LIKE to do.

Potential Strategies

•Change to Monthly/Quarterly Collection to Streamline Process

- Specified time period to place out Bulk & Brush
- Collection process scheduling within a “zone”

•If Citizens Follow Established Schedule

- Bulk/brush could be within the right-of-way for shorter time periods
- More workable scheduling for crews, less fuel, lower mileage, fewer complaints

•If Citizens Do Not Follow Schedule

- Increase in illegal dumping
- Potential longer lead time of bulk/brush remaining within right-of-way
- Increase in the quantity of investigations by Code Enforcement, RPD, and Solid Waste



DPW – What we NEED

Based on the Current Operating Approach:

- **Need 10 Crews to be 100% on schedule.**
 - 150 tickets per day
 - 3,000 tickets per month
- The Department also recommends an increased quantity of strategically located convenience centers; providing citizens with more alternatives
- The Preferred Operating Approach of scheduling work within zones, if adhered to, may increase the quantity of requests. However, with the resource levels recommended above, the response time would be lower, therefore, helping the department achieve the practice of leaving no trash behind



Thank You!

- Questions & Answers