

Illegal Dumping Program

March 19, 2019



Ron Kasper
Recycling Program Coordinator
Public Works
City of San Mateo

First, a little background ...



- Before 2010, Public Works staff picked up illegal dumping only when reported or seen by staff.
- In 2011, a New Solid Waste Franchise Agreement meant abandoned waste pickup provided by hauler.
- By 2012, Public Works staff began recording dates and addresses of illegal dumping:

1,746 reported locations

➤ In 2013

1,650 locations of illegal dumping reported

Upgraded Reporting:

- Quarterly sorted list by address
- Determined location with highest volumes of illegal dumping
- Called Recology to verify if there was a Bulky Item Pickup
- Called contact person on account regarding responsibility

A bird's-eye view ...

- ✓ 2014, seven cameras purchased
- ✓ 2015, cameras installed in areas of high activity
- ✓ 2018, nine additional cameras purchased
- ✓ Benefits Police Enforcement



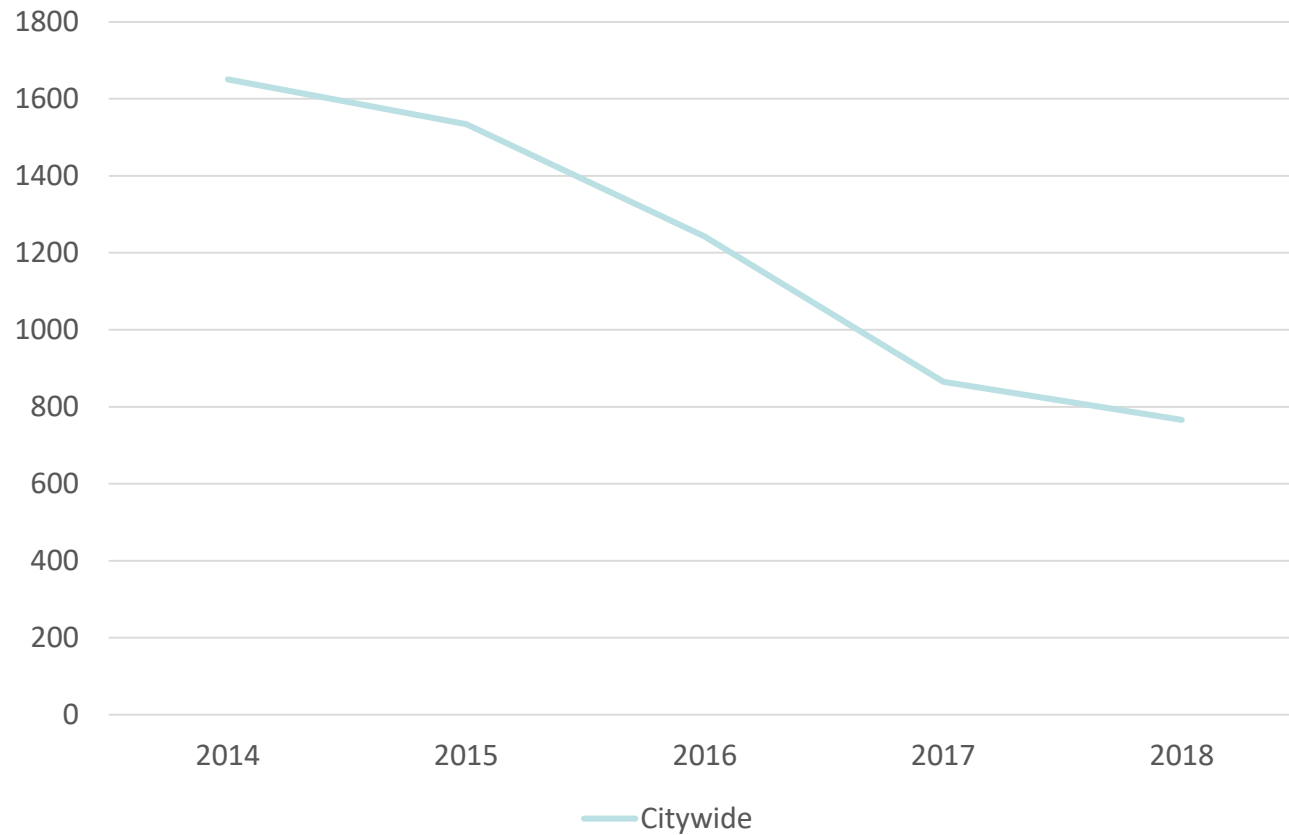
Caught on tape ...



Data Collection



Illegal Dumping Reporting – Four-year view



2014	1,650
2015	1,534
2016	1,242
2017	865
2018	766

Camera Results - Reports of activity

Activity Year	Studio Circle	Grand Boulevard *
2015	32	19
2016	12	16
2017	2	9
2018	3	9

* Camera relocated here in 2017



Studio Circle camera



Grand Boulevard camera

New Program Protocols

*Established
2016*



Public Works Staff:

- ✓ Go to the location
- ✓ Verify address and type of debris
- ✓ Take photo, with date
- ✓ Contact Recology:
 - ✓ Verify if there is a bulky item pickup
- ✓ Record:
 - ✓ Date, location, debris
 - ✓ Sort quarterly by address
- ✓ Determine possible responsible party



Notice to Abate:

- City Attorney approved form notice
- Sent to property owner
- Details location and violation
- Includes Code section of violation
- Dated photo of debris
- Provides City contact information

Includes Recology contact information for bulky item pickup

72 hours to abate from the date letter is mailed

Copied to City Attorney

Staff follows up on established date to abate

- If violation is abated, no further action is required
- Or, property owner contacts City
- City works with owner to establish next steps
- Offers assistance

5/16/2017

NOTICE OF ORDER TO ABATE A PUBLIC NUISANCE

John Doe
100 Anywhere St
San Mateo Ca 94401

Dear Property Owner:

The following condition exists on your property located at 100 Anywhere St. APN: 000-000-000

At the above-mentioned address, couches from your property was place on the sidewalk and is encroaching in the public right of way along Kingston and is restricting public access.

This condition is in violation of the following section of the City of San Mateo Municipal Code:

- Section 7.16.030 (d) "Public Nuisances"

Subsections (d) "Obstructions, impediments, or excavations that interfere with the ordinary use by the public of any street, way, or sidewalk except when and as permitted pursuant to this code.

- Section 17.08.020 "Placing Certain Objects in the Public Right-of-way Prohibited".

No person shall place or cause to be placed, anywhere upon any public way, right-of-way, street, or sidewalk, and no person owning, occupying, or having the control of any premises shall suffer to remain in front thereof, upon any sidewalk, in the public right-of-way, of the half of the street or way next to such premises any appliances, furniture, bench, inoperable vehicles, boats, machinery, foods, merchandise, implement box, debris box, mailbox, or other object, which shall be an obstruction for more than one hour at a time.

Removing all of these items out of the public right of way would abate this condition. If appropriate measures are not taken by May 19, 2017 we will issue an administrative citation with a fee of \$100. You will be subject to additional citations and administrative fees ranging from \$200.00 to 500.00 if the violation is not corrected.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at (650) 522-7329 or by email at rkasper@cityofsanmateo.org.

Sincerely,

Ron Kasper
Recycling Coordinator

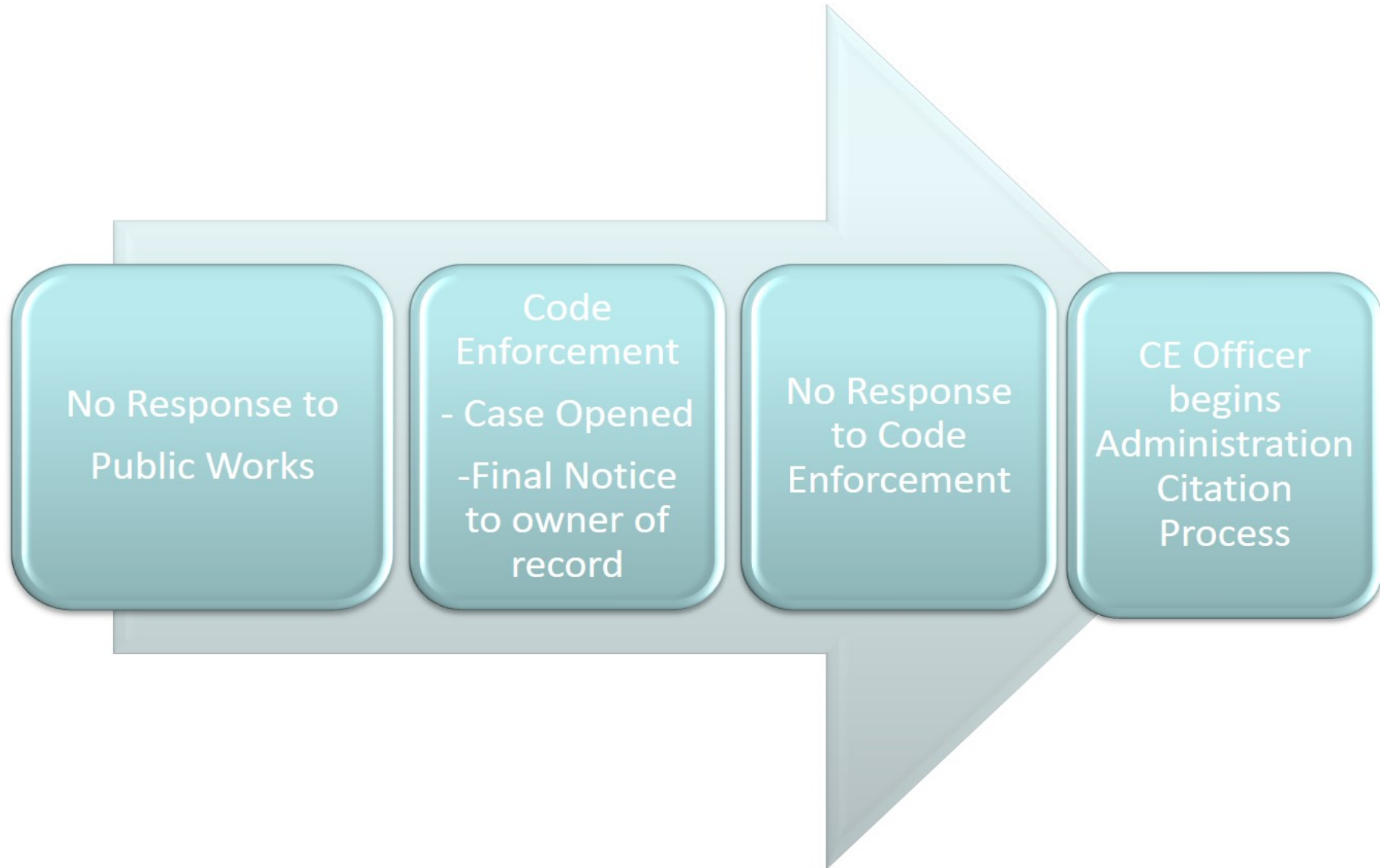
Attachment – Ordinance 7.16.030 (d)

cc: Caio Arellano, Assistant City Attorney
Roxanne Murray, Recycling Project Coordinator
Chron/File

Results:

- 80% of time property owner takes responsibility for the removal of the debris
- City takes responsibility when no responsible party found:
 - Recology or city crew picks up debris
- Violation is not abated and no contact has been made with the City
 - Violation is turned over to Code Enforcement Manager

Code Enforcement Role:





Progress:

884 fewer locations of illegal dumping in 2018 where the City had to take responsibility for the debris removal compared to 2014 (46% reduction in four years)



What Worked:

- ✓ Designated staff
- ✓ Recording by date and address all locations
- ✓ Funding
- ✓ Support of City Attorney, Code Enforcement and City leadership
- ✓ Written notice
- ✓ Property owner buy-in

What doesn't:

- Just picking it up
- Phone calls
- No follow through
- Moving cameras
 - When moved dumping reoccurred
- Signage
 - “No Dumping” seem to be an invitation to dump debris
- No property owner engagement

Success Story & Next Steps



Tilton & Amphlett *Before Property Owner Buy-In*

- City staff contacted business
- Recommended trimming bushes
- No buy-in from owner
- Reports of illegal dumping:
 - 2015 – 34
 - 2016 – 33
 - 2017 – 17



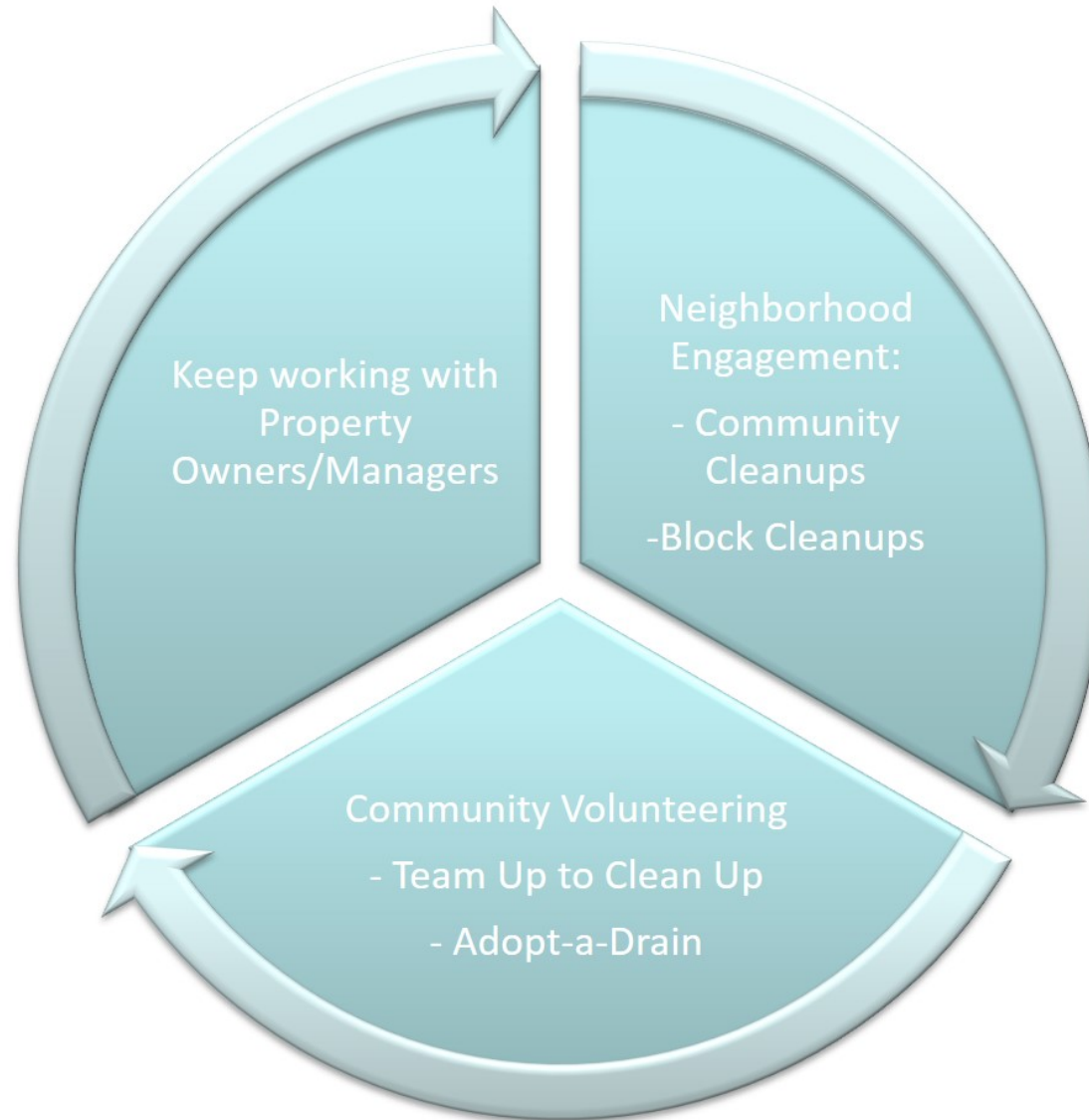
Tilton & Amphlett

After Property Owner Buy-In

- ✓ July 2018 property owner worked with City staff
- ✓ Trimmed bushes late July
- ✓ Reports of illegal dumping prior to July 31: 9
- ✓ Illegal dumping after July 31: 1



Next Steps:





Thank you for your time.

Ron Kasper
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www.cityofsanmateo.org/publicworks

Stewards of your infrastructure

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