




Public Works Department

ACTION CALENDAR
September 19, 2006

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From:  Phil Kamlarz, City Manager

Submitted by: Claudette R. Ford, Director, Public Works

Subject: Street Sweeping Program

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that staff be given until January 2007 to fully analyze the financial and operational impacts of the expanded street sweeping proposed by the Public Works Commission (PWC).

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

None.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The PWC's report lists the streets that have been allowed to opt out of the residential street sweeping program since 1991. The PWC proposes that those streets be added back into the program, in a phased approach.

Although members of the PWC met with operations staff to develop its proposal, I have consulted with the Public Works Director and am convinced that the full impact on City resources has not been considered. First and foremost, a comprehensive public information campaign must be undertaken. Both the associated cost and timeframe need to be considered. Input, not only from the affected residents on those streets, but also from other community groups and interests, is essential.

Next, appropriate signage must be in place well in advance. The precise location and quantities of signs needed for all the new locations has not yet been determined. Public Works staff intends to perform a field survey and develop an estimate of the total costs for this expansion to the program. It is anticipated that this cost is not insignificant and therefore is not presently in the Department's budget.

The operational workload impact also needs further analysis. Although the residential program is separate from the commercial and industrial program, the staffing resources are the same employees. There are possible staffing shortfalls in the total citywide street sweeping demands. This needs further detailed evaluation.

Finally, the impacts on departments other than Public Works need to be explored. In particular, we have not had a chance to explore the effects of the additional workload on our parking enforcement resources. This analysis should also include the financial balance of the additional costs versus the potential increase in parking ticket revenue.

BACKGROUND

The companion report from the PWC contains a comprehensive history of the street sweeping program and the opt-out element.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The impacts of the expansion to the program should be carefully considered. Additional time is needed for this purpose.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

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