

Consider Approval of an Ordinance Budget Adjustment Homeless Camp Cleanup

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Summary

- Question
 - With the increase in the Homeless person population in Leon Valley, what steps can we take to abate the problem?
- Options
 1. Authorize a budget adjustment in the amount of \$30,000 and hire outside contractor to routinely remove camps
 2. Continue to have Public Works clean out camp areas
 3. Other

Background

- Public Works currently assists the Police and Fire Departments with the removal of homeless encampments
- The frequency of abatements has increased over the past couple of years from 1-3 per year to approximately 1 per month

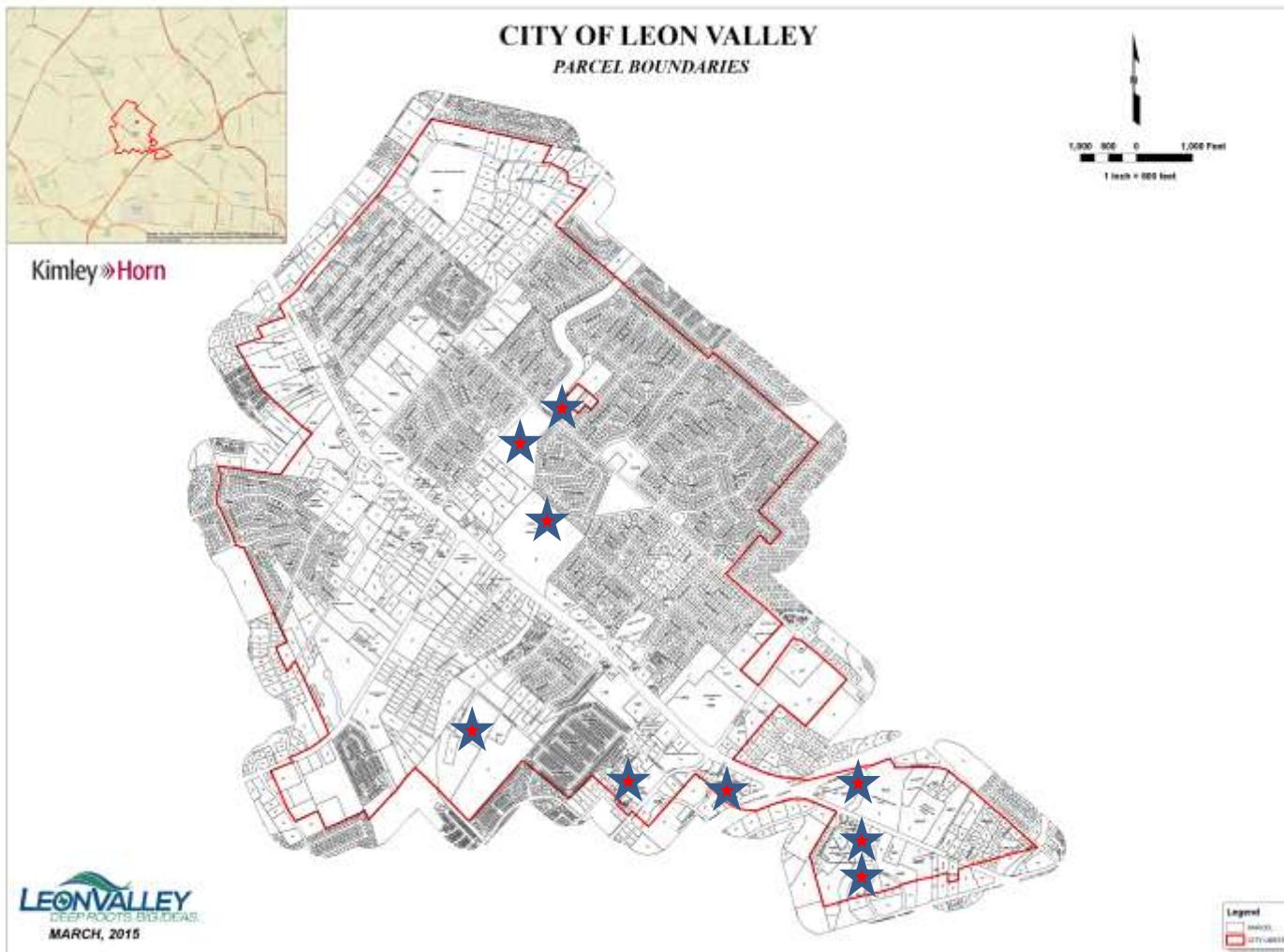
Background

- Some encampments pose a biohazard to employees working to remove debris and trash that is generated from multiple people on site
- Cleanups require staff resources anywhere from 4-8 hours, sometimes multiple days, depending on the size of the encampment
- A typical sized crew includes a Forman, Equipment Operator, and 3-4 laborers

Background

- Equipment - 2WD trucks, skid steer, backhoe with grapple buckets, and chainsaws
- Personal Protective Equipment - Tyvek level D jumpsuits, puncture proof gloves, hand tools, bio bucket, and sharp container
- Staff met with several qualified contractors that specialize in homeless camp removal and requested estimates
- A medium sized cleanup using a crew for 8 hours with two 20 CY roll offs is approximately \$2,852

Encampments



Materials Collected



Fiscal Impact

- The requested budget adjustment of \$30,000 would cover approximately 10 medium to large cleanups for the remaining Fiscal Year
- Funding would come from the General Fund Reserve

Recommendation

- Staff recommends approval of a budget adjustment in the amount of \$30,000

S.E.E. Statement

Social Equity: Cleaning up homeless camps promptly protects all citizens from fire danger and other health hazards

Economic Development: The removal and cleanup of debris and garbage generated by homeless camps helps to maintain a clean City which helps retain and or attract businesses

Environmental Stewardship: The cleanup of debris generated from homeless encampments, especially in waterways, helps to reduce litter and trash and helps to improve stormwater quality, thereby protecting the environment