

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: July 18, 2023

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Melinda Moritz, Public Works Director

THROUGH: Crystal Caldera, City Manager

SUBJECT: Consider Approval of an Ordinance Authorizing a Fiscal Year 2022-23 General Fund Budget Adjustment in the Amount of \$30,000 for the Purpose of Cleanup and Removal of Homeless Encampments within the City of Leon Valley.

SPONSOR(S): None

Purpose

The purpose of this Ordinance is to authorize a budget adjustment in the amount of \$30,000 to utilize for the removal of debris and cleanup of homeless encampments within the City of Leon Valley. The City's Public Works Department assists the Police and Fire Departments with the removal of homeless encampments. The frequency of the cleanups in the past was approximately 1-3 times per year, however, more recently, the City is experiencing an increase in the removal of about one encampment per month.

Some of the encampments can pose a biohazard to employees working to remove the debris and trash generated from multiple people at one site. Encampments range in size from small—approximately 4 hours to clean, to large—8 hours or more to clean.

Staff met with several qualified contractors that specialize in homeless camp abatement, and requested estimates. The lowest estimate is from Resolute Dumpster Rentals. Removal of debris from any specific location and proper disposal is \$37.15 per cubic yard. The price for a cleanup crew team collecting trash that is scattered on a site is an hourly rate of \$124.25. Assuming a medium to large one day clean up, and using two 20-yard roll off trailers; the approximate price is \$2,852. The requested budget adjustment would allow for approximately ten – medium to large sized cleanups.

A typical sized crew is made up of a Foreman, Equipment Operator, and 3-4 field technicians. Equipment includes 2WD trucks, skid steer, backhoe with grapple bucket, and chainsaws. Personal Protective Equipment includes Tyvek level D jumpsuits, puncture proof gloves, hand tools, bio bucket, and sharp container.

With approval of the budget adjustment, the City would have the ability to contract with Resolute Dumpster Rentals for certain homeless encampment removals. The contractor is licensed and bonded, and has provided similar services in Bexar County.

Fiscal Impact

A budget adjustment in the amount of \$30,000 is requested. The funds would come from the General Fund Reserve.

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 the encampments helps to maintain a clean City which could help retain and/or attract businesses.

Environmental Stewardship – 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.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the Ordinance.

APPROVED: _____ DISAPPROVED: _____

APPROVED WITH THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS:

ATTEST:

SAUNDRA PASSAILAIGUE, TRMC
City Secretary