

#### **Blight Removal Update**

City of Tacoma | Neighborhood & Community Services

Community Vitality and Safety June 10, 2021

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# ••••OVERVIEW



- Adopt A Spot and Neighborhood Litter Patrol
- Purple Bag Pilot
- HIRE Program
- Encampment-related Debris Removal
  - Vendor performance
- Use of ARPA Funds

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# Adopt A Spot and Neighborhood Litter Patrol

- Provide bags, gloves and trash removal
  - Adopt-A-Spot (AAS) ongoing with opportunity for sign placement
  - Neighborhood Litter Patrol (NLP) one time events
- 2021 performance
  - 149 total adopters enrolled
  - Q1 2021
    - 7 new adopters
    - 6 new volunteers for neighborhood litter patrol
    - 96 cleanups or blue tickets requested

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#### Purple Bag Pilot Program



- Environmental Services (ES) launched pilot in late 2020
- Recently expanded to add additional ES properties
- Working to expand to other locations



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# Pilot HIRE Program



- Launched in April 2021
- Provides opportunity for businesses to have trash removal and light landscaping performed
- Employs individuals experiencing homelessness and provides them skill-building opportunities

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#### Encampment Debris Removal



- Late 2020 NCS piloted approach in Hilltop
- Early 2021 expanded to add biohazard removal contractor
  - Focused on:
    - S. 8th to 15th on Yakima
    - S. 13th and Altheimer
    - S. 14<sup>th</sup> and 'G' Street
    - S. 11th and J Street
    - 6th and 'L'/'M' Street
- Adjusting contract to add staffing and locations



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# •••• Vendor Performance



Site location	Garbage Bags Collected and Disposed	Garbage Bags Distributed	Needles collected	Furniture collected
S. 8 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> on Yakima	267	141	131	6
S. 13 <sup>th</sup> and Altheimer	118	57	7	
S. 14 <sup>th</sup> and G Street	128	36	12	2
S. 11 <sup>th</sup> and J Street	149	122	7	
6 <sup>th</sup> and 'L'/'M'	252	159	28	4
TOTAL	914	515	185	12

March 1, 2021 thru May 21, 2021

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# Encampment Debris Removal



- In March 2021, NCS added a contract to address encampments in all districts
  - Allows for 'on-call' ability to address removal needs
  - Initially unoccupied encampments only
  - Recently expanded to allow contractor to address agreed upon occupied encampments





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### •••• Vendor Performance



- 56 Tons of trash collected (March 22-June 3, 2021)
- Regular maintenance locations:
  - 34/35<sup>th</sup> and Pacific
  - South Tacoma Way at the Rescue Mission
  - E. N and E. 25th Street
  - 25<sup>th</sup> and A Street
  - 24<sup>th</sup> and Puyallup
  - 16th and Yakima
  - 11<sup>th</sup> and MLK
  - 49<sup>th</sup>/51<sup>st</sup> and Burlington

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# Use of ARPA Funds



- Use of \$300,000 in ARPA to address ongoing debris removal from encampments
- Use of \$500,000 in ARPA to implement and promote city-wide cleanup effort

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