



# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

## Committee Meeting Minutes - Final

### Illegal Dumping Ad Hoc Committee

Supervisor Diane Burgis  
Supervisor Federal D. Glover

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Thursday, September 21, 2023

12:00 PM

3361 Walnut Blvd, Suite 140, Brentwood  
190 E 4th St, Pittsburg

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Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

1. Introductions

Call to Order

Committee Member Burgis called the meeting to order at 12:00pm

Also in attendance were Stacey Grassini, District Attorney's Office; Tim Kraus, Environmental Health (EH); Kristian Lucas, EH; Brian Balbas, Public Works (PWD); Chris Lau, PWD; Michele Mancuso, Contra Costa County Watershed Program; Lt. Levi Terrill, Sherriff's Office (SO); Lt. Mark Rodriguez, SO; John Kopchik, Conservation and Development (DCD); Deidra Dingman, DCD; Joseph Losado, DCD; Jo-Anmarie Ricasata, DCD, Dylan Chiu, DCD; Unidentified Call In User 1

**This matter was approved**

2. RECEIVE and APPROVE the Record of Action for the February 2, 2023 Illegal Dumping Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

**Attachments:** [Record of Action 2-2-2023](#)

**Aye:** Burgis, and Glover

**Result:** Passed

3. RECEIVE status update regarding implementation of the Board approved Contra Costa County Illegal Dumping Initiative Strategies.

**Attachments:** [CCC Illegal Dumping Initiative Dashboard-September 2023](#)  
[Table 1 - Illegal Dumping Initiative Strategy Table-September 2023](#)  
[County Illegal Dumping Brochure](#)  
[Figure 1 - Requests for Illegal Dumping Clean Up Received by Pub Works in 2022](#)  
[Figure 2 – Illegal Dumping Signage](#)  
[Figure 3 - North Richmond Illegal Dumping Locations](#)

Staff summarized the information contained in the “Illegal Dumping Initiative Dashboard” and “Status Updates” column for the yellow highlighted strategies contained in Table 1 -

Illegal Dumping Initiative Strategy Table - September 2023 attached to the staff report for this item. Staff presented verbal updates on the following strategies and related items:

### **Funding Update**

During the meeting, the following funding sources and amounts were discussed:

- Clean California Grant - Cycle I (revised) = \$614,000
- Measure X - FY 22/23 = \$600,000
- Measure X - FY 23/24 = \$630,000

Deidra Dingman clarified that "Cycle I revised" reflects adjustments made for a smaller-scale project due to budget constraints following construction bid assessments. John Kopchik mentioned the current active funding sources and the submission of a Clean California Grant application for Cycle 2.

### **Enforcement- Strategy #45**

Levi Terrill, Assistant Patrol Division Commander, discussed enforcement updates, which involve supplementing the team with current resident deputies due to challenges in hiring per diem illegal dumping deputies. Their strategy includes strategic directed patrols in areas and times prone to illegal dumping, supported by overtime for enforcement and investigations.

Stacey Grassini, Senior Deputy District Attorney, credited the collaborative efforts of the group and law enforcement for a significant increase in enforcement over the past 18 months. In a snapshot from January to August, they identified 22 cases related to Penal Code Section 374.3(a), with 7 filed. Stacey commended the sheriff's department, particularly in North Richmond, for proactive measures in gathering information related to illegal dumping.

### **RV, Boat, and Graffiti Abatement - Strategy #40**

Joseph Losado, Code Enforcement Division Manager, reported towing approximately 40 RVs and derelict boats in 2022 and 41 in 2023, maintaining consistent numbers.

He highlighted a drop in RVs on Bay Point streets, and an increase in North Richmond. Joseph mentioned an email from Supervisor Glover's office regarding 24 RVs parked alongside Wilbur Road, emphasizing the importance of ongoing efforts to keep such areas clean.

Joseph credited their success to daily communication with Community Service Officer Dan Jordan's team. They are also collaborating with the Marine Patrol to remove abandoned derelict boats from the water. Additionally, he mentioned plans to remove a 22-foot boat from Antioch Marina during Coastal Cleanup Day.

### **Outreach and Engagement - Strategy #5 Public Outreach Campaign, Strategy #16 Community Clean Up Event, Strategy #56 Community Partner Engagement**

Staff provided verbal updates, including a recap of the May 6 Bay Point Clean-Up event with a video presentation, the distribution of an Illegal Dumping Brochure, and announced the upcoming Byron Clean-Up scheduled for October 21. Additionally, they discussed the Request for Proposal (RFP) for a public outreach campaign.

### **Coordination with other regions and agencies - Strategy #56, and Legislation Strategy #49**

Deidra Dingman provided an update on AB 592, explaining that it had been approved and concurred on by the assembly and is now on the Governor's desk for signature. AB 592 establishes a pilot program in three counties (Alameda, Contra Costa, and Solano) that permits the regulation of waste hauling activities and requires permits for the use of roads for hauling activities. The program aims to strengthen existing regulations and will require amending local ordinances once it goes into effect.

Kristian Lucas, Assistant Director of Environmental Health, discussed the potential impact of the passage of AB 592, which may enhance proactive enforcement capabilities by requiring permits for waste transport on county roadways. Environmental Health plans to collaborate with the Sheriff's Office to develop enforcement strategies to address illegal dumping if the bill is signed into law by the Governor.

Jo-Anmarie Ricasata discussed ongoing coordination efforts with other regions and agencies, highlighting the think tank team's continued work between ad hoc committee meetings. They consistently participate in regional illegal dumping task force meetings and recently presented their abatement strategy for derelict boats, RVs, and trailers.

Supervisor Burgis raised questions about the meetings' effectiveness, and John Kopchik emphasized their value for collaboration and information sharing. The Committee expressed a commitment to monitor the meetings' usefulness in the future.

Tim Kraus, Solid Waste Program Supervisor, shared that 1,465 waste tires were cleaned up in the first six months of 2023, with around 2-300 cleaned up by their own environmental staff, and 8-900 through assisted clean-ups with organizations like Civic Corps and local conservation corps. Additionally, Joseph Losado mentioned that they removed around 2,000 tires and 200.44 tons of garbage during the abatement at Anchor Marina.

### **Identifying Trends - Data, Reports, Maps, Metrics**

Jo-Anmarie Ricasata presented updates on identifying trends, data reports, maps, and metrics related to illegal dumping. They discussed maps illustrating dumping reports and hotspot areas, emphasizing their value in shaping strategies, camera placement, and signage locations for ongoing efforts. Committee expressed appreciation for the presentation.

### **Surveillance Cameras - Strategy #46**

Chris Lau, Division Manager of the Maintenance Division at the Public Works Department, discussed a surveillance camera pilot project involving collaboration with various agencies. The project deployed five cameras across different county areas, revealing the potential of surveillance cameras for combating illegal dumping and detecting other crimes. However, it highlighted limitations such as camera quality, power availability, fixed camera locations, and field of view restrictions. The project also explored third-party monitoring with mixed results. Despite challenges, the pilot project demonstrated the value of surveillance cameras, prompting plans for future deployments in active areas, increased camera numbers, and more nimble systems. A request for qualifications (RFQ) will be issued to solicit interest from vendors and consultants to aid in deploying additional cameras. The similar project received funding from the Keller Canyon Mitigation Fund for expanding cameras in the Bay Point area, with positive results, including deterrence of stolen vehicle dumping.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Jill Ray expressed concerns about missing data in the 2022 reporting map, particularly in areas like Canyon, stressing the need for accurate data collection. She left the meeting, thanking everyone.

In response, John Kopchik mentioned that the current map uses Mobile Citizen app data but shared plans to integrate called-in reports for comprehensive information. Jo-Anmarie Ricasata presented a map from a previous meeting showing cleanup requests for illegal dumping, incorporating various reporting methods. She highlighted the ongoing effort to compile data from all sources into the Mobile Citizen platform for better accuracy and consistency in map creation.

Scott Parker, a Moraga resident, discussed his efforts in creek and open space cleanup, particularly in Moraga, Lafayette, and unincorporated areas. He highlighted the need for collaboration between the county, East Bay Mud, and East Bay Parks to implement preventative measures and reduce illegal dumping, especially in high fire hazard severity areas like reservoirs.

A caller expressed concerns about individuals engaging in illegal dumping and suggested using tax dollars more effectively by implementing a tip hotline and offering rewards to those who provide information to help address the issue. They emphasized the need to combat this behavior that poses dangers and affects residents' quality of life.

Scott Hill, the Manager of Watershed and Recreation for East Bay MUD, discussed the ongoing problem of roadside dumping along Pinehurst Road, which is adjacent to a primary tributary into Upper San Leandro Reservoir. He highlighted the difficulties in recovering trash and expressed interest in collaborating with the county to deter dumping along the roadway, especially to prevent trash from ending up in the watershed or reservoir. Supervisor Burgis suggested working with Chris to explore camera opportunities and involving the East Bay Regional Park District in potential solutions. Scott Hill praised the impressive presentation and thanked the team for their efforts.

**COMMITTEE COMMENTS:**

Supervisor Glover expressed his appreciation for the work being done to combat illegal dumping and noted that he has seen a difference, with a decrease in call volume to his office related to the issue. He commended the collaborative efforts of the team.

Supervisor Burgis mentioned that the reduced flow of traffic due to limited single lanes on some roads may have contributed to a decrease in illegal dumping incidents.

**RECOMMEND** that the Board approve Table 1 - Illegal Dumping Initiative Strategy Table-September 2023 and strategy amendments as follows:

1. Expand Enforcement Strategy #45 to allow for the use of overtime deputies in addition to per diem deputies.
2. Extend RV, boat, and trailer abatement Clean-Up Strategy #40 to encompass graffiti abatement.

**Aye:** **Burgis, and Glover**

**Result:** **Passed**

4. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to three minutes).

The caller expressed gratitude for the approved per diem for law enforcement but criticized the supervisors for not giving enough attention to the issue of illegal dumping, suggesting that they establish a citizen advisory committee and organize town halls. Supervisor Burgis responded by mentioning previous town halls and the formation of the committee and reiterated her commitment to addressing illegal dumping. Federal Glover mentioned a decrease in call volume related to illegal dumping incidents but was criticized for this perception.

The meeting was concluded with the Committee's expressions of gratitude for the efforts made by the team.

5. The next meeting is currently scheduled for February 1, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.
6. Adjourn

The Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 30 Muir Road in Martinez, during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible on line at [www.co.contra-costa.ca.us](http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us). Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact: Jo-Anmarie Ricasata, Committee Staff  
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