



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Committee Meeting Minutes - Draft

Illegal Dumping Ad Hoc Committee

Thursday, October 2, 2025

10:30 AM

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

Zoom: <https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/82338224673> | Call in: 1-888-278-0254 Access code: 198675

Supervisor Diane Burgis, Chair
Supervisor Shanelle Scales-Preston

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

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Call to Order

Committee Member Burgis called the meeting to order at 11:00am

Also in attendance were Stacey Grassini, District Attorney's Office (DA); Devon Bell, DA; Bryan Tierney, DA; Tim Kraus, Environmental Health (EH); Kristian Lucas, EH; Chris Lau, Public Works (PWD); Capt. Mark Johnson, Sheriff's Office (SO); Sgt. Jesus Topete, SO; John Kopchik, Conservation and Development (DCD); Deidra Dingman, DCD; David Brockbank, DCD; Dylan Chiu, DCD

Present Diane Burgis, and Shanelle Scales-Preston

2. RECEIVE and APPROVE the Meeting Minutes for the February 20, 2025, Illegal Dumping Ad Hoc Committee Meeting.

Attachments: [Meeting Minutes February 20 2025](#)

Motion: Burgis

Second: Scales-Preston

Aye: Burgis, and Scales-Preston

Result: Passed

3. APPROVE meeting schedule modification from first Thursday in February to the first Thursday in March. No proposed change to the second yearly meeting in September (first Thursday).

Aye: Burgis, and Scales-Preston

Result: Passed

4. RECEIVE status update regarding implementation of the Board approved Contra Costa County Illegal Dumping Initiative Strategies and PROVIDE direction to staff as appropriate.

Attachments:

[CCC Illegal Dumping Initiative Dashboard October 2025](#)

[Attachment 1 - Illegal Dumping Initiative Strategy Table - October 2025 Updates](#)

[Attachment 2 - Request for Illegal Dumping Clean-Up Received by Public Works and CHDC in Jan-July 2025](#)

[Attachment 3 - Request for Illegal Dumping Clean-Up Received Versus Pick-Ups](#)

[Attachment 4 - Montalvin Project](#)

[Attachment 5 - Waste Tire Amnesty](#)

[Attachment 6 - Statewide Illegal Dumping Conference \(IDCON5\)](#)

[Attachment 7 - Budget Update](#)

Data, Reports Maps, Metrics

Dylan Chiu, Conservation and Development Planner, briefly presented the Illegal Dumping Initiative Dashboard and Strategy Tables, noting that they summarized some of the updates that would be presented verbally later in the meeting.

Dylan then shared Attachment 2: “Requests for Illegal Dumping Clean-Up Received by Public Works and CHDC January - July 2025” with the committee. This map shows where clean-up requests were received by Public Works and the Community Housing Development Corporation (CHDC), a nonprofit based in North Richmond between January and July of 2025. Dylan pointed out that this map had similar hotspot dumping locations to previous year’s maps, including North Richmond, El Sobrante, Rodeo, and Bay Point. Some of the new hot spot areas shown in this map include the area south of Brentwood and the area along Vasco Road.

He clarified that Republic Services is required, under a County land use permit, to maintain a “Hotspot Crew.” The Hotspot Crew consists of a two-person team with a truck dedicated full time to cleaning up illegal dumping in North Richmond. As a result, they respond not only to reported pick-up requests but also proactively address illegal dumping observed while patrolling, which contributes to the high number of pick-ups recorded in North Richmond.

Supervisor Scales-Preston asked whether the 2025 numbers are increasing. Dylan responded that the 2025 figures are currently on track to be similar to those reported in 2024. Dylan also noted that, historically, the numbers increased from 2022 to 2024. John Kopchik, Director of Conservation and Development, added that illegal dumping metrics can be difficult to interpret, as increases in pick-ups and reported requests may reflect greater public awareness, increased dumping activity, or a combination of both.

Dylan presented Attachment 3: “Requests for Illegal Dumping Clean-up Received Versus Pick-Ups”. He explained that the top chart in green shows that countywide requests and pick-ups have increased each year with 2025 numbers on track to be similar to the previous years. He noted that the number of requests exceeds the number of actual pick-ups due to duplicate requests for the same item, waste being removed prior to crew arrival, or safety

concerns that prevent crews from collecting the material. The bottom chart in blue shows the numbers for North Richmond area and Dylan noted that this area makes up for about eighty percent of the whole county's requests and pickups.

Supervisor Burgis asked whether tonnage information is available for areas outside of North Richmond. Deidra responded that tonnage data is only available for North Richmond due to the dedicated crew, which weighs the waste they collect each day. In contrast, illegal dumping removal in areas outside of North Richmond is conducted using vehicles that already contain other materials, making it difficult to track tonnage specifically attributable to illegal dumping waste. Staff will plan on sharing North Richmond tonnage from previous years at a future meeting.

Supervisor Scales-Preston asked if the illegal dumping strategies are working given that the numbers are similar to those of previous years. Deidra responded that we have gotten anecdotal evidence that people in North Richmond have said they feel like their streets are cleaner even though the data may not show that. She believes the illegal dumping efforts are making a difference, but knows it's hard to use the metrics to prove that. John Kopchik added illegal dumping is a completely vexing problem and hard to address as it happens all over the place. He mentioned it is hard to come up with a metric that proves if illegal dumping is getting better or not.

Montalvin Project

Dylan shared photos of the Montalvin project, which was partially funded by the Clean California Local Grant Program. The project is located within the Montalvin Manor community and was completed in June of this year. Improvements included the installation of benches, accessible parking spaces, trash receptacles, shrubs, trees, and wayfinding signage. Dylan explained that the intent of the project was to beautify the area by adding infrastructure and amenities, with the goal of discouraging illegal dumping.

Waste Tire Amnesty - Strategy #14

Tim Kraus, Environment Health Solid Waste Supervisor, shared that they had 3 Tire Amnesty events in Bay Point, Canyon, and Richmond. There will be 2 Tire Amnesty events coming up in Richmond on October 25th and in Concord on November 1st. Tim mentioned they have been trying to schedule an event in Byron as well, but is running into scheduling issues so they will postpone it until after the first of the year. Tim added that he applied for a renewal of the grant and asked for the maximum amount of \$40,000.

Enforcement - Strategy #45

Mark Johnson, Sheriff's Office Captain, introduced himself and noted that he is taking over for Captain Brooks, who had served in the role for the past four years. He shared that the Sheriff's Office now has two per diem officers assigned to illegal dumping matters, with

Sergeant Jesus Topete working alongside Sergeant Marvis Haley.

Sergeant Topete stated that they have been engaging directly with community members to discuss illegal dumping concerns, which has helped foster more transparent relationships. He added that they are continually seeking additional resources to support investigations, as identifying perpetrators can sometimes be challenging. He has been working closely with Chris Lau, Assistant Public Works Director of the Maintenance Division, to utilize cameras as a tool to combat illegal dumping and praised their effectiveness.

Supervisor Burgis asked what percentage of illegal dumping cases brought to the Sheriff's Office are initiated by officers versus reported by the public. Sergeant Topete responded that it is difficult to provide a specific percentage but noted that deputies respond to illegal dumping calls immediately, if they are available.

Supervisor Burgis also asked how effective cameras have been as a deterrent. Sergeant Topete responded that cameras will continue to play an important role and emphasized that camera quality is a key factor to consider when determining which equipment to use.

Stacey Grassini, Senior District Attorney, introduced himself and shared that he will be retiring in early December 2025. He introduced his successors, Devin Bell, Senior Deputy District Attorney, and Brian Tierney, Deputy District Attorney. Stacey reported that from January through September 2025, their office investigated 25 illegal dumping cases. Of those, 8 cases were filed, and there are currently 4 pending misdemeanor cases.

Stacey suggested that the County's Illegal Dumping Team collaborate with other jurisdictions to share best practices and explore opportunities to work together. Supervisor Scales-Preston agreed and stated that she would raise the topic of illegal dumping at her upcoming Delta 6 meeting with the mayors of Pittsburg, Antioch, Oakley, and Brentwood.

Supervisor Burgis asked whether the County's laws and ordinances align with those of other cities, such as Stockton. Sergeant Topete responded that enforcement efforts are limited to the ordinances currently in place and staff try to think creatively within those parameters. Deidra Dingman added that County Counsel, who are not regular members of the Illegal Dumping Think Tank, would play a critical role in advising on how to pursue an illegal dumping ordinance.

Surveillance Cameras - Strategy #46

Chris Lau, Assistant Public Works Director, shared that the County has reached the one-year anniversary of deploying its first 10 mobile surveillance units (MSUs). He explained that the MSUs are monitored 24/7 by a third-party monitoring service with speaker capabilities, allowing agents to issue real-time "talk-down" warnings to potential dumpers. Chris noted that the MSUs are redeployed quarterly to new illegal dumping hot spots. The cameras serve as a valuable tool for law enforcement, as they can capture license

plates and video footage of perpetrators in the act. He added that the cameras have proven to be an effective deterrent, with reduced dumping observed in areas where they are installed.

In addition to the MSUs, Chris shared that Public Works also utilizes other technology, including Flock license plate reader cameras. When asked by Supervisor Burgis about the cost, Chris responded that the County leases 10 MSUs for \$300,000 per year.

Chris also reported that Measure X funds were used to purchase a new garbage truck dedicated to illegal dumping clean-up. The truck has greater capacity than existing trucks in the County's fleet, allowing for more efficient and regular pick-ups. Supervisor Burgis noted that this would be Stacey's final meeting and thanked him for his contributions to the committee.

Statewide Conference on Illegal Dumping

David Brockbank, Conservation Programs Manager, shared that he will be attending Alameda County's regional convening on illegal dumping on October 29, 2025. He noted that he hopes to gather information on illegal dumping ordinances and share key takeaways with the committee. David also announced that the Fifth Statewide Conference on Illegal Dumping will take place on April 30 and May 1, 2026, and encouraged committee members to consider attending.

Budget Reallocation Update

Dylan presented Attachment 7: Budget Update, which outlined each department's expenditures for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, the remaining Measure X and General Fund balances at the end of Fiscal Year 2024-2025, the approved Measure X allocations for Fiscal Year 2025-2026, and the total budget at the start of Fiscal Year 2025-2026. Dylan noted that approximately \$50,000 of the Public Works budget will be earmarked to support Environmental Health's Tire Amnesty events.

5. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).
6. The next meeting is currently scheduled for February 5, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. (Proposed to change to March 5, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.).
7. 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 online at www.contracosta.ca.gov. If the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted. If the connection is not reestablished, the committee will continue the meeting in person without remote access. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

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