

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP, ILLEGAL DUMPING, & DEBRIS



★ A GREAT AMERICAN STORY ★

Policy Question

“Cost the city incurs to clean up after homelessness and health risk it proposes”

TEAM RESPONSE

- Community Development
- Parks, Recreation, and Tourism
- Police Department
- Municipal Services
- Health and Animal Services
- Fire Department

*See handout for details



Park/Transient Camp Cleanups



INDEPENDENCE
★ MISSOURI ★ SM



Park/Transient Camp Cleanups

- 2019:
 - 81 camps
 - 7 dumpsters
- 2020*:
 - 47 camps
 - 4 dumpsters
- 2021 (thru Oct.):
 - 61 camps
 - 5 dumpsters

*Limited response due to COVID



- Highest Frequency:
 - Young Park (11)
 - Rotary (10)
 - Roberts (10)
 - Rock Creek Trail (9)
- Cost: ~\$40,000/yr.

ROW CLEANUP

- 194 requests (excludes staff reports)
- ~\$75,000-80,000/annually
- ~2,300 hrs./year in staff time
- Use community service workers when possible



Private Property

- Average 1,800 cases/yr. all properties
 - 5 cases/day
- Properties with no address
 - ~\$6,000-7,000/yr. in cost



Graffiti

- Approximately 250 cases
- ~\$15,000-\$20,000 annually



Police Department Response

- 2,015 incidents (no differentiation between environmental cleanup and other incidents)
 - ~2,000 hours or \$73,000
- 2 officers heavily involved in homeless outreach
 - Estimated 1,300 hours addressing homeless incidents (~30%)
 - \$50,800
- Total Effort:
 - 3,300 hours
 - \$123,800



Looking Ahead

- Development of Co-Responder Pilot Program*
- Mental health resources*
- Interdepartmental collaboration and resource sharing
- Broaden partnerships
- Refine data collection methods

*see attached summary





★ A GREAT AMERICAN STORY ★