



## Antelope Valley Illegal Dumping Task Force Meeting Summary of August 1, 2018

### Attendees:

#### County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors

Charles Bostwick, Supervisor Kathryn Barger's Office

#### County of Los Angeles Departments

Adriana Ornelas, Department of Public Works

Bonitto Housen, Department of Public Works

Patrick Holland, Department of Public Works

Tiffany Caldwell, Department of Regional Planning

Oscar Gomez, Department of Regional Planning

Edgar de la Torre, Department of Regional Planning

Karen Tandler, Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Ariel Verayo, Department of Agricultural Commissioner Weights and Measures

Debbie Pepe, Department of Parks and Recreation

#### State and other Local Municipalities

Mica Schuler, City of Palmdale

Benjamin Lucha, City of Palmdale

Adrienne Dunfee, United States Forest Service

#### Town Councils and other local Organizations

Bret Banks, Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District

Tom Lapworth, Antelope Valley Board of Trade

Jeff Zimmerman, Rural Protection Services

Shirley Harriman, Lake Los Angeles News

Winnie Murphy, Antelope Valley Town Council

Erika Schwerdt, iHeart Lake LA

Michael Publicker, Leona Valley Town Council

Paul Henreid, Neenach Town Council

Lisa Hemenway, Waste Management

Josh Mann, Waste Management

Kary Newman, Hinterculture

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Donna Termeer's Absence Announcement – Charles Bostwick**

Charles Bostwick, 5<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor's Office announced Ms. Donna Termeer is ill and unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Bostwick is the alternate chair for this meeting.

### **Account Balance – Charles Bostwick**

Charles Bostwick of the 5<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor's Office announced Mr. Guy Randles is not in attendance. Mr. Bostwick reported the account balance in the checking account. The account balance is \$77,743.

Bonitto Housen, Department of Public Works provided a copy of the AVIDTF approved Fiscal Year 2018 AVIDTF Spending Plan memo to Mr. Bostwick. Need signature from AVIDTF chair to release funds to the AVIDTF checking account.

### **Illegal Dumping Quarterly Summary – Adriana Ornelas**

Adriana Ornelas, Department of Public Works provided the summary of the current Illegal Dumping Incident Report for the Antelope Valley areas. Adriana provided a map of incidents of illegal dumping reported to the illegal dumping unit, since 2011. Per the map, reported incidents of illegal dumping are concentrated in the Quartz Hill and Lake Los Angeles.

### **Approval of June 6, 2018 meeting minutes – Charles Bostwick**

Charles Bostwick, Fifth District Supervisor's Office moved to approve the June 6, 2018 meeting minutes. Tiffany Caldwell, Department of Regional Planning approved the motion and Bonitto Housen, Department of Public Works seconded the motion. Motion passed. Unanimous vote.

### **Report on Task Force Bylaws – Tiffany Caldwell/Karen Tandler**

Tiffany Caldwell, Department of Regional Planning and Karen Tandler, District Attorney's Office reported the Antelope Valley Illegal Dumping Task Force (AVIDTF) does not have written bylaws. Bylaws will be drafted in compliance with The California Ralph M. Brown Act (Section 54950 of the California Government Code) then will be provided to the AVIDTF committee for review within the next few months.

### **Report on Illegal Dumping Board Motion – Bonitto Housen**

Bonitto Housen, Department of Public Works reported on the Board of Supervisors Board Motion heard on June 26, 2018 Board Meeting regarding reports of nuisances of illegal dumping throughout unincorporated LA County. Bonitto reported a 45-day response by various LA County Departments (working group) was submitted. The report listed coordinated efforts such as an enforcement plan, additional funding, assessment of funding, and create new programs.

The working group is awaiting response from the Board Office.

### **Report on Anti-Dumping Campaign Project – Charles Bostwick**

Charles Bostwick, Fifth District Supervisor's Office presented copies of billboards from around the world with different tag lines to prevent illegal dumping. There is potential for free advertising on billboards in between paid customers. And Ben Lucha, City of Palmdale shared research into incidents of illegal dumping should include community based social media. City of Palmdale conducted a research in their city and found behavior on disposal of trash as the issue. Ben can share the report for those interested in reading it.

### **Report on Illegal Dumping Cleanup Request "Operation Avenue X" – Edgar de la Torre**

Edgar de la Torre, Department of Regional Planning reported that 30 parcels in the Avenue X area have been investigated, 16 were cleaned up and other parcels found no nuisance of illegal dumping on those properties. The concern is parcels are on open land which may lead to continued illegal dumping. Oscar Gomez, Department of Regional Planning suggested berms may deter violators from entering private property. For areas near the highway and the potential loophole on non-maintained County roads within road right of way, Patrick Holland, Department of Public Works mentioned consider using Caltrans' Adopt-A-Highway Program. Karen Tandler, District Attorney's Office mentioned consider using Caltrans' Parolee Program for prisoners to cleanup. Ariel Verayo, Department of Agricultural Commissioner Weights and Measures mentioned his team is available to assist property owners who need assistance with clean up.

### **Report on Neenach roll off bins – Jeff Zimmerman**

Jeff Zimmerman, Rural Protective Services reported on the success of the Neenach Community Volunteer Cleanup event held July 10-13, 2018. Two 40-yard roll off bins were filled by day three from the following locations 235<sup>th</sup> Street West, 245<sup>th</sup> Street West through 300<sup>th</sup> Street West, Highway 138, area near the Community Center, 3 Points Road, 205<sup>th</sup> Street West and area near the Woodland State Park. Event was focused on the Neenach Town Center area. 52 tires were held at a local store until the tires were transported to a tire recycling facility. The store owner was issued a citation for storing the collected tires. The tires were taken to a tire recycling facility and charged \$96. Karen Tandler, District Attorney's Office moved to reimburse the cost of tire recycling charge. A second motion was approved. Motion passed. Unanimous vote.

There was a discussion about creating "Desert Watch" similar to "Neighborhood Watch" and/or create a special district similar to mosquito abatement.

**Discuss the Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup Abatement Grant Program – Ariel Verayo**

Ariel Verayo, Department of Agricultural Commissioner Weights and Measures (ACWM) shared his department is applying for the 2018-19 Farm and Ranch Grant that could assist with nuisances of illegal dumping. ACWM has applied for the Farm and Ranch Grant for the past 5 years. Ariel shared his department has a Declaration (DEC) List for fire hazard and public nuisances. Currently, there are 11,834 parcels listed on the DEC list. Parcels on the DEC list are monitored and if owner violates order to abate nuisance, ACWM places a lien on the property.

**Request to fund Fall 2018 mattress collection events – Bonitto Housen**

Bonitto Housen, Department of Public Works mentioned three upcoming Mattress Recycling Collection Events in Littlerock, Quartz Hill and Lancaster are scheduled between September and October 2018. Bonitto moved AVIDTF to fund \$4,000 from the task force to fund the programs as the Mattress Recycling Council only funds the connex containers to transport the mattresses to a mattress recycling facility. The events need staff to load the containers. Tiffany Caldwell, Department of Regional Planning seconded the motion to fund the mattress recycling collection events up to \$4,000. Motioned passed. Unanimous vote.

**Inquiry on roll-off bin (for Annamarie Dyemartin) – Adriana Ornelas**

Adriana Ornelas, Department of Public Works mentioned since Ms. Annamarie Dyemartin was not in attendance, Adriana moved to table the agenda item. The motion was seconded. Motion passed.

**No Dumping Signs (private property) – Adriana Ornelas**

Adriana Ornelas, Department of Public Works shared there are “No Dumping” signs available for posting on private properties. Bonitto Housen, Department of Public Works stated “No Dumping” signs were approved at a previous task force meeting for property owners to place on their property to discourage illegal dumping. Charles Bostwick, 5<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor’s Office stated there are 30 signs currently at the 5<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor’s Office. Property owners may contact the 5<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor’s Office to request a “No Dumping” sign.

**Inquiry on Powell and Blayney roll-off bins – Jackson Piper**

Jackson Piper, Department of Regional Planning shared a roll off bin for Blayney is no longer needed as the property is clean. The request for a roll off bin for Powell is tabled for the next meeting so that Jackson can verify trash collection service through a trash hauler company or self-haul.

### **Inquiry on Lake LA Community Clean Up Event – Erika Schwerdt**

Erika Schwerdt, Lake Los Angeles resident presented i♥Lake LA, a community campaign educating residents about cleanup efforts with the Lake LA community and a future cleanup plan. Erika provided information about a recent cleanup at 180<sup>th</sup> Street East and Lake Los Angeles Avenue (site A). A cleanup effort has not begun at 172<sup>nd</sup> Street East and Avenue N, heading East towards 174<sup>th</sup> Street East (site B). Waste Management (WM) donated a roll off bin for the community cleanup event. Tiffany Caldwell, Department of Regional Planning moved to reimburse up to \$250 (approximately 100 tires) for disposing of tires at a tire recycling facility. Karen Tandler, District Attorney's Office seconded the motion. Motion passed. Unanimous vote.

### **Inquiry on including abandoned/inoperable Vehicles as Illegal Dumping – Jackson Piper**

Jackson Piper, Department of Regional Planning inquired what constitutes illegally dumped abandoned/inoperable vehicles on vacant land. Ariel Verayo, Department of Agricultural Commissioner Weights and Measures stated the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and Sheriff's Department identify ownership. Ariel stated the process to remove abandoned/inoperable vehicles from vacant land begins by reporting the incident of public nuisance to the CHP or Sheriff's Department. After initial investigation and owner of vacant lot is unable to be reached, vehicles are removed and taken to salvage yards. The Certificate of Title (pink slip) must accompany the vehicle to the salvage yard. The process may take up to three months.

### **Inquiry on how Waste Management advertises landfill business hours – Adriana Ornelas**

Adriana Ornelas, Department of Public Works requested how Waste Management (WM) advertises their business hours. Adriana observed customers taking unwanted items to the WM's Antelope Valley Landfill (aka Palmdale Landfill) after the landfill was closed for the day. Customers inquired about the landfill hours. Lisa Hemenway, WM mentioned business hours are listed on the gate of the facility and on their website.

### **Open Discussion/Public Comment**

### **Discussion on coordinating with Mental Health's Hoarding Task Force – Tiffany Caldwell**

Tiffany Caldwell, Department of Regional Planning moved to assist Department of Mental Health with a resident's 10 year hoarding due to mental health issues and provide two roll off bins to clean the property. Motion passed unanimously.