



Date: September 18, 2018
To: Patrick H. West, City Manager *T.M.W.*
From: *C.A.B.* Craig A. Beck, Director of Public Works
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: **Locking Bin Pilot Program**

At the request of the City Council, the Department of Public Works (PW) has been developing a Locking Bin Pilot Program in the East Village. PW has engaged the City's Innovation Team (i-team) to assist with the pilot program's implementation.

Background

The City Council has identified the East Village area as being a neighborhood within Long Beach that is subjected to a large volume of illegal dumping and scavenging. Accordingly, this neighborhood was selected for the pilot program.

Staff defined the pilot program area boundaries to be from 4th Street to Ocean Boulevard, and from Atlantic Avenue to Long Beach Boulevard. Initially, staff surveyed the area to determine the number of existing bins and locations and the service provider of each bin. The survey identified 51 bins in the pilot area, 32 serviced by private companies and 19 serviced by the City.

Current Efforts

PW and the i-team monitor the pilot program area daily and document occasions of illegal dumping, overflow of trash, and other neighborhood blight to establish a baseline for local behavior. Staff is developing separate surveys for property owners, residents, and private hauling companies that operate in the neighborhood to further define behavior, identify service obstacles, and develop strategies to overcome these obstacles. Staff has begun reaching out to private hauling companies to ensure they provide locking bins, or their bins are stored in locking enclosures.

Staff is also in the process of revising public education materials to distribute throughout the pilot program area to educate residents and landlords about the proper disposal of larger, bulky items. Finally, PW and Purchasing staff have received responses to an Invitation for Bid for the purchase of locking bins for City-serviced accounts.

Next Steps

Staff will continue to work with private hauling companies to ensure they offer their customers locking bin service, and will contact City serviced accounts to offer locking bins. While staff does not intend to make locking bin service mandatory at this time, customers

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will be strongly encouraged to participate and will be offered locking bin service at no charge for a 90-day period to incentivize participation. Fees for locking bins are common in the industry as locking bins are more time-consuming to service.

PW staff will also work with the i-team to conduct interviews with landlords and tenants and based on those interviews, will begin to implement strategies to discourage illegal dumping. Staff will also monitor the neighborhood surrounding the pilot program area to determine if the locking bin program has an impact on the surrounding community.

If you have any questions, please contact Diko Melkonian, Environmental Services Bureau Manager, at (562) 570-2856.

CB:DM:JC

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