

To the Mayor and Members of the City Council**March 1, 2016**

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**SUBJECT: ALLEY MAINTENANCE PROGRAM**

Prior to the completion of a recent alley inventory effort undertaken by TPW, it was estimated that there were 3,000 alley block segments throughout the City. Upon completion of the inventory, it was determined that a total of 2,448 alley segments exist within the City with this reduction primarily the result of redevelopment and consolidation of block segments. Of those, 251 are considered paved alleys and 2,197 are either unpaved or partially paved. Currently the City's Alley Maintenance Program is confined to the mowing and the clearing of 1,067 alley segments or 49% of the total unpaved inventory. This includes an additional 244 alleys to be maintained through a \$75,000 funding increase approved by Council in the FY2016 budget.

This program is completed through contractual services, where alleys are mowed, trees are trimmed, and litter and debris are removed. In FY2016 there will be two cycles of mowing which allow for the one-time vegetation clearing of the new 244 additional alley segments. Alley cleaning will revert back to three cycles per year in FY 2017 at the current funding level of \$407,315.

Prior to FY 2013, alley segments were mowed four cycles per year, however, as part of the program reduction, the number of cycles was reduced to three in an effort to mow as many segments as possible. Experience in performing this operation through the years has indicated that even in periods of greater rain amounts, three cycles of mowing are effective and provide an acceptable appearance.

The primary goal of the alley mowing program is to improve safety in alleyways by reducing illegal dumping and police call requests. The selection of alley segments to be mowed has occurred through a cooperative effort with Code Compliance and Police officers in the review of illegal dumping activity and police call requests.

Table 1 lists the recommended number of alley segments to be mowed in FY 2016 by Council District while Table 2 provides the total number of alley segments in each Council District.

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Table 1 – FY 2016 Recommended Mowing Program

Council District	Number of Alley Segments	Linear Feet
2	357	202,264
3	123	60,983
5	74	30,200
7	43	25,518
8	223	118,773
9	247	124,209
Totals	1067	561,947

Table 2 – Total Alley Inventory by Council District

Council Districts									
Surface Type	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total Alley Segments
Paved	6	15	30	3	23	54	24	96	251
Partial Paved	17	11	2	0	0	64	15	58	167
Unpaved	582	141	0	112	1	85	434	675	2030
Total	605	167	32	115	24	203	473	829	2448

Currently, the mowing contract is in place and the contractor has cleaned and mowed 675 alleys which equates to 63% of the first mowing cycle for FY 2016. Maps and a listing of segment locations are available and have been sent to each individual Council District for review.

In the future, if additional funds become available for alley mowing, the selection of new segments would occur in a similar manner as previous segments were selected along with review by each Council District. If you should have questions, please contact Richard Martinez at 817-392-7914.

David Cooke
City Manager