

Memo



Metro

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Date: Wednesday April 28th, 2021
To: Metro Council
From: Roy Brower, Director, Waste Prevention and Environmental Services Department
Subject: Community Cleanup Expansion Options

Overview

At the April 20, 2021 work session, Metro Council directed staff to develop additional options for expanding and expediting community clean-up efforts in the region. The current FY 21-22 budget proposal includes RID workforce transition expansion for \$2.5M and 8.0 FTE to add four additional workforce transition employee crews for a total of six crews. The proposal did not include additional support to directly fund cleanup and restoration efforts by local community groups, neighborhoods or small businesses that could help the region address the immediate concerns. This worksheet outlines additional options for Metro Council consideration.

This proposal could include a budget amendment of \$1,000,000.00 by either reallocating Innovation and Investment grant funding or spending solid waste reserves and will include 1.0 FTE for program administration.

Expansion Options

In addition to the RID crew expansion, staff recommends the following options for consideration:

- 1. Expand RID Patrol private/public partnership for cleanup crews (\$325,000).** This would include funding for two additional two-person crews through private partnerships recruited through a procurement process focusing on COBID, BIPOC businesses. While this would be distinct from the workforce transition program, WPES would seek proposals from businesses working with individuals within or coming out of recovery or re-entry programs and assign clean up or restoration work. Additional crew-equivalents could be added at \$167,000/crew equivalent.
- 2. Increase financial support for local community groups, neighborhoods, small businesses and local governments (\$430,000).** This would include funding and 1.0 FTE to assist with the immediate cleanup and disposal of collected waste in the region. The department regularly receive requests from community groups, neighborhood associations and small businesses for disposal fee waivers and donation of trash bags, tools, paint and other supplies. This would address these increasing requests and help connect local organizations with direct financial assistance and services for a range of clean-up needs to assist the most impacted communities.

- 3. Increase donation of Metro paint to help with graffiti removal in public spaces (\$330,000).** This would include funding and making a current variable hour employee as a full time FTE to increase the volume of paint offered through donations or reduced costs to community groups, neighborhood organizations and local small businesses to help with graffiti removal in public spaces or to repaint small businesses or key community assets. This also includes donated or discounted paint for local government partners. These donations would be coordinated through financial assistance for community clean-up programs.

Next Steps

If Metro Council would like to proceed with one or more of these options, staff will develop an amendment for the FY 21-22 budget proposal.

1. RID Patrol private/public partnership for cleanup crews (2 additional crews)	\$325,000
2. Direct financial support for community cleanups	\$300,000
3. 1.0 FTE for community cleanup program coordination	\$130,000
4. Paint donations for graffiti removal and equipment	\$200,000
5. 1.0 FTE for paint donation and outreach coordination (already budgeted)	\$130,000
Total	\$1,085,000

Metro Council can consider the various options at the May 11, work session and staff will return with a budget amendment responsive to the Council's recommendation.

