Department of Code Compliance
Pick-Up and Remove Litter (PURLL) Program

Presented to: Quality of Life Committee
October 9, 2006
Pick-Up and Remove Litter (PURL) Program

History of the PURL Program

• **P- U - R - L** is an acronym for Pick Up and Remove Litter.

• PURL was established during former Mayor Ron Kirk’s term in partnership with Senior State Jail Warden Larry Johnson who formed this volunteer program in an effort to allow inmates to “give back to the community”.

• The original PURL program, which consisted of 12 male volunteers, was discontinued several years ago after the escape of the “Texas Seven” from the Huntsville State Penitentiary.
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- On July 3, 2006, the PURL Program was re-established.
- The present PURL program consists of 6 female volunteer inmates from the Jesse Dawson State Jail Facility and one (1) jail guard.
- All inmates are screened by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice prior to being assigned to the PURL Team, and must have a trustee status.
- The PURL team inmate volunteers are assigned to work 4-10 hour days (Mondays through Thursdays).
- All work locations are pre-submitted and approved by Texas Department of Criminal Justice prior to the PURL Team conducting the work.
- Personal contact between inmates and others is strictly prohibited.
In partnership with this agreement, the City of Dallas Department of Code Compliance provides:

- Van for transportation of PURL Inmates from the Dawson Jail to the approved work sites
- Trailer equipped with a portable toilet facility
- Hand tools, safety equipment and training manuals
- Lunch, soft drinks and water for PURL Inmates and Jail Guard
- Two full time employees from the Department of Code Compliance’s Mow-Clean Division to staff the program
**Pick-Up and Remove Litter (PURL) Program**

- The Purl Team participants are responsible for removing litter from alleys and streets.
- All litter removed is transported daily to the City of Dallas landfill, where it is weighed prior to dumping.
- Purl Teams services are rendered at highly visible sites, which must be pre-approved by the Dawson State Jail.
*Pick-Up and Remove Litter (PURL) Program*

- With the utilization of the PURL Team inmates, permanent employees will not be displaced.
- The PURL program is subject to audit and review by prison personnel at any time.
Pick-Up and Remove Litter (PURL) Program

PURL Program Approved Locations

- Canada Drive
- Singleton Blvd.
- Industrial Blvd.
- Lamar Street
- Martin Luther King Blvd
- Grand Avenue
- Hatcher Street
- Elm Street
- Main Street
- RL Thornton Freeway
- Good Latimer Expressway
- Julius Schepps Freeway
- Jefferson Blvd.
- Davis Street
- Loop 12
Pick-Up and Remove Litter (PURL) Program

• The PURL Team accomplishments to date:
  – Removed over 260,028 pounds of litter within the City limits of Dallas, from 7 Council Districts, and over 110 locations.
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