

Memorandum



DATE October 24, 2008

TO Honorable Members of the Quality of Life Committee: Pauline Medrano, Chair; Vonciel Jones Hill, Vice Chair; Carolyn R. Davis, Angela Hunt, Sheffie Kadane, David A. Neumann, Steve Salazar

SUBJECT Bandit Signs briefing

On Monday, October 27, 2008, you will be briefed on bandit signs. Attached is the briefing material for your review prior to Monday's discussion.

If you have questions or need additional information, please let me know.



Forest E. Turner
Interim Assistant City Manager

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
Mary K. Suhm, City Manager
Deborah A. Watkins, City Secretary
Thomas P. Perkins, Jr., City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Judge C. Victor Lander
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager
Ramon F. Miguez, Assistant City Manager
A.C. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager
Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
David K. Cook, Chief Financial Officer
Joey Zapata, Interim Director, Code Compliance Department

Code Compliance Department “Bandit Signs”

Presented to the Quality of Life & Government
Services Committee

October 27, 2008



Overview

- Background
- Enforcement Operations
- Enhanced FY08-09 Enforcement

Background

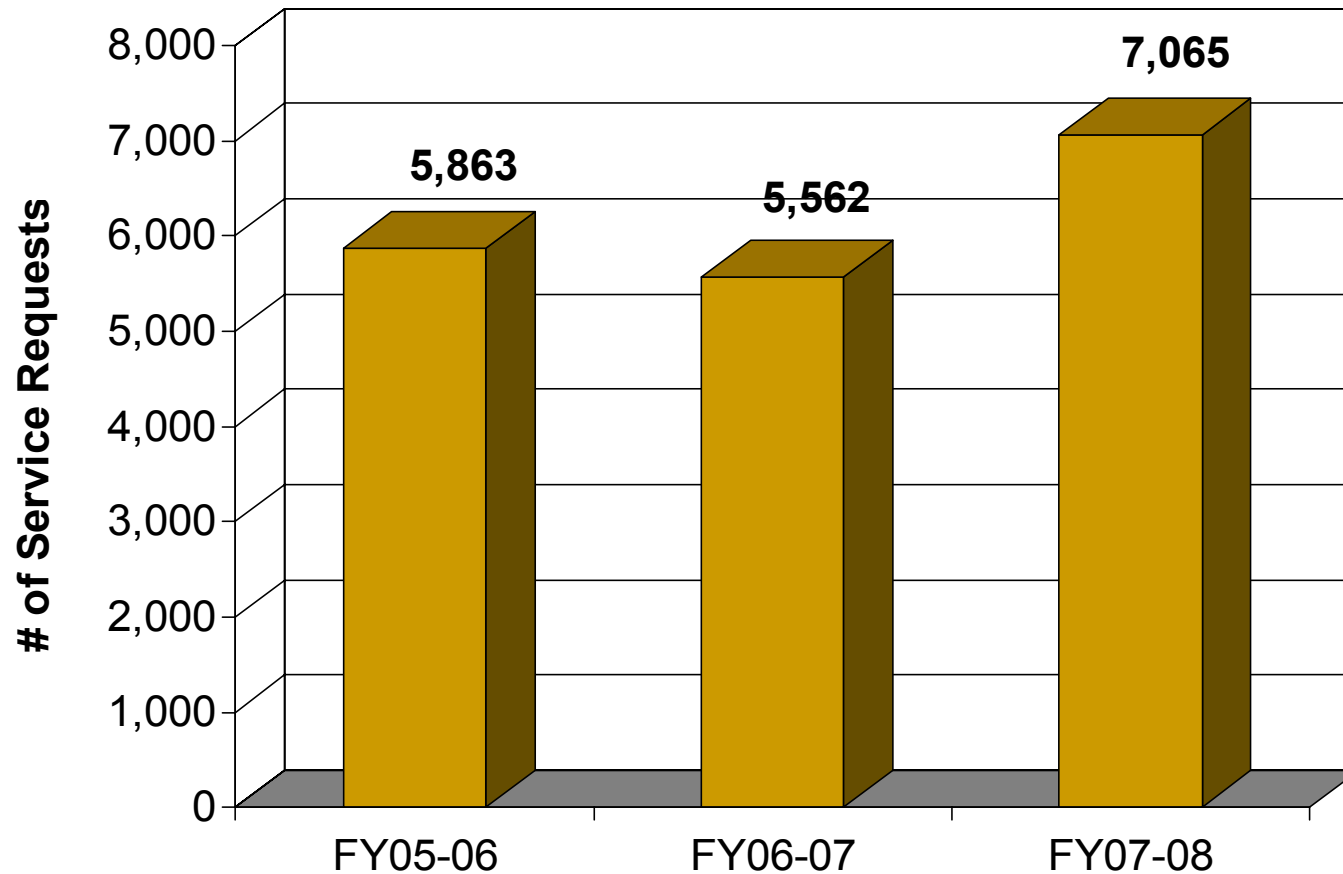
- “Bandit Signs” are those placed illegally on utility poles, bus stops and inserted in the right-of-way (ROW)
 - Frequently advertise real estate, health aids, garage sales and dating services
- Potential impact to public safety
 - Distracting drivers attempting to read them
 - Provoking sudden stops or lane changes in traffic to reach advertised locations
- Impact to quality of life through clutter, litter



Enforcement Operations

- Community code inspector functions
 - Removal without notice
 - Signs in the public right-of-way
 - Signs on utility poles and devices
 - Issue notice of violation with 24-hours to comply
 - Signs that are attached or too heavy to remove
 - Issue citations
 - Individuals caught placing illegal signs
 - Operators advertised on illegal signs

Sign-related Service Requests



Enhanced FY08-09 Enforcement

- Increased targeted sweeps
 - Identify areas plagued by illegal signs with a focused approach utilizing the seven (7) Community Code Districts, case mapping and referrals
 - 30 newly added code officers for FY08-09 are dedicated to code sweep efforts
 - Announced sweeps engage the community and are effective in eliminating illegal signs in a large area
 - Periodic unannounced sweeps discourage repeat offenders



Enhanced FY08-09 Enforcement

- Increased education efforts
 - Utilize Neighborhood Code Representatives
- Expanded responsibility for removal of signs
 - Engage other departments (Parks, Streets, Sanitation) and agencies that encounter illegal signs to identify and remove “Bandit Signs”
 - Develop partnerships with public utility and cable companies to remove illegal signs on poles and devices

Questions