



Homeless Workshop



Eric Ball, Code Enforcement Officer
March 29, 2022

A Day in the Life

- *Code Enforcement has become a major cog in the homeless camp clean-up efforts*
 - Abandoned camp removal
 - Abandoned homeless property removal
 - Abandoned homeless shopping carts

A Day in the Life

- *At least 50% of my current work week is dedicated to tracking and removal of abandoned homeless camps, trash, etc.*
 - Partnership with Homeless Liaison Officer (YCPD)
 - Partnership with Deputy Andre Licon, Sutter County Sheriff
 - Locate, assess, and prioritize camp locations for mitigation

A Day in the Life

- After a camp site is abandoned
 - Communicate with private property owners to remove abandoned items on their property
 - Coordinate with Sacramento Regional Conservation Corp Team and/or Public Works Staff to remove abandoned items on public lands
 - SRCC work is paid for through a Calrecycle grant that City Staff received (\$250,000 for use within a two year cycle)
 - This grant cycle will end this June with no new grant in place to keep SRCC working with us
 - Or load items in my work vehicle and dispose them

Recent major clean-up project

City owned property within Sutter County's jurisdiction on the east side of the Feather River

City of Yuba City and Sutter County
Departments involved:

- Yuba City Police Department
- Yuba City Code Enforcement
- Yuba City Public Works
- Sutter County Sheriff's Department
- Sutter County General Services
- Sutter County Road Department

Other agencies and departments
involved

- HEART Team
- CA Department of Fish and Game
- Yuba-Sutter CA Highway Patrol
- SRCC Team
- Holt of California
- Bains Towing and Recovery
- Every tow company on rotation with local law enforcement agencies

Scope of Work

City Property East of Feather River

- Approx. 15 large camp locations
- Approx. 25 homeless individuals
- Approx. 100 vehicles removed
- Approx. 700 cubic yards of debris removed
- Over 5,000 man hours worked









Challenges & Obstacles

- Insufficient funding and staff to deal with all the varying types and numbers of our homeless population
- Limits on locations scope for cleanup within the CalRecycle grant for Conservation Corp Team work, grant funding limited.
- Private property issues
- Insufficient resources for rehab and mental health services
- Insufficient permitted camp spaces within walking distance of current homeless population locations
- Lack of any warming/cooling facilities during inclement weather
- Recidivism











Approximate Annual cost of Code Enforcement / Various clean-up

- ½ time Code Enforcement Officer
 - \$40,900
- SRCC Team (six young adults and a team leader)
 - Approx. \$125,000

*Note: Does not include other City resources Public Works, PD, etc.

Opportunities for Improvement

Prioritizing Resources -

- Helping Homeless Individuals
 - 1) Warming/cooling stations
 - 2) Minimize distances to legal campsites and shelters
 - 3) Increase availability and access to rehabilitation and mental health services, etc.
- Helping Businesses / Private Property Owners
 - Additional staff dedicated to homeless intervention, funding, etc.
(Homeless Liason(s), Code Enforcement, Outreach staff)
- Keeping our City Clean / Attractive
 - Additional staff dedicated to quickly remove debris.
 - Working to provide resources to private property owners to quickly cleanup areas.
(Dedicated beatification crews, ongoing funds needed for outsourcing cleanup - SRCC, etc.)