



Office of the City Manager

December 4, 2015

To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

From: *DWR* Dee Williams-Ridley, Interim City Manager

SUBJECT: Encampment at 2134 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way – Old City Hall

This is to update you on the encampment at Old City Hall. This morning, City staff from Public Works and Parks, Recreation and Waterfront cleaned the area in front of Old City Hall. In the process, they removed garbage, food, hypodermic needles and other debris that had created significant health and safety concerns. At least 13 truckloads of materials were removed from the site. The people who were staying on the grass were given time to collect their belongings. The last tent was removed roughly three hours after City staff arrived. Any items of value are being stored at the Transfer Station and are available to be reclaimed.

As you know, City staff had been visiting the site for nearly two weeks and offering a list of resources for shelter, food and showers. We had also informed those residing on the grass that their lodging on public property was a violation of Penal Code 647(e) and not approved by the City. Three people were arrested for violating that penal code section. Two people asked to be arrested at the conclusion of the operation. All were expected to be cited and released this afternoon. A city homeless outreach worker had visited the site multiple times and provided resources, including hygiene kits and socks. Though some had previously declined services, six people expressed interest in services Friday.

Great effort went into ensuring that this was successfully handled with respect and a sense of service. This included staff from: Neighborhood Services; Parks, Recreation & Waterfront; Public Works; Health Housing & Community Services; and Police.

cc: Gil Dong, Interim Deputy City Manager
Zach Cowan, City Attorney
Scott Ferris, Director, Parks, Recreation & Waterfront
Phil Harrington, Acting Director, Public Works
Ann-Marie Hogan, City Auditor
Michael Meehan, Police Chief
Mark Numainville, City Clerk
Kelly Wallace, Acting Director, Health Housing and Community Services
Matthai Chakko, Assistant to the City Manager/PIO
Jim Hynes, Assistant to the City Manager
Manuel Ramirez, Manager, Environmental Health