

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BLIGHT AND ILLEGAL DUMPING TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the Memphis City Council on June 21, 2022, approved by resolution the formation of the Blight and Illegal Dumping Task Force (“Task Force”) for the purpose of identifying new initiatives, processes, as well as to improve and expand current City of Memphis efforts, to prevent and mitigate blight and illegal dumping in the city of Memphis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Blight and Illegal Dumping Task Force members share and propose the following recommendations to the Memphis City Council for adoption:

Used Tires

1. Amend Chapter 9-58 Code of Ordinances related to Tire Businesses & Haulers to reduce and eliminate prevalence of illegally dumped used tires. Specific amendments include:
 - a. Tire business retailers must keep an electronic record, of manifest, of tires.
 - b. Require tire business retailers to reduce outdoor storage and indoor storage based on square footage and reduce holding time of tires.
 - c. Require tire business retailers to identify the hauling company who they will be working with in order to obtain or renew a used tire business permit.
 - d. Revoke permits of hauler’s convicted of state traffic safety laws.
 - e. Codify the Tire Amnesty Program (up to 10 tires per day at a City of Memphis Convenience Center).

Solid Waste

2. Transition to a tiered solid waste collection fee based on size and number of carts leased by residents/property owners.
3. Eliminate outside the cart/bulk waste collection and transition to on-demand bulk waste collection service residents may utilize 4 to 6 times per year. Residents would book in advance by calling or going online and pay a special bulk pick-up fee.
4. Support for the City of Memphis to develop and enter a Regional Solid Waste Plan with Shelby County Government.
5. Create a Share the Pennies style program for Solid Waste fee revenues to go towards construction and, or operation of convenience centers.

Beautification & Litter Mitigation

6. Neighborhood Improvement Comprehensive Plan. Office of Neighborhood Improvement will implement a comprehensive strategic plan to target an area and coordinate a narrow focus of city services, divisions, and agencies on that area for an extended period of time. There should be coordination between divisions, communication with neighbors, nonprofits, churches and schools, and a strong presence felt by the community.
7. \$50,000 to Memphis City Beautiful for 50 additional trash receptacles throughout the city and support for the Adopt a Trash Can program.
8. Support for additional grants to Memphis City Beautiful to organize youth clean ups with Memphis-Shelby County Schools, for grass and blight mitigation, and to maintain greenspace in the urban core.
9. Support for renewal of the City of Memphis Adopt a Street program.
10. Support for a long-term comprehensive plan for the City of Memphis to open and operate three (3) additional convenience centers, with locations in the North, South, East, and West quadrants.

Environmental Court

11. Support for an MOU between the City of Memphis and Shelby County Environmental Court to establish Community Courts at Hickory Hill, Orange Mound, and Pinehill Community Centers, as well as at the Raleigh Civic Center.
12. Support the creation of the Environmental Court Foundation, a quasi-governmental agency with the ability to fundraise and distribute resources to indigent and elderly homeowners unable to afford home repairs to resolve code violations. City of Memphis to provide start-up funding in the amount of \$50,000.00 from surplus premium pay American Rescue Plan funding.

Communications, Outreach & Education

13. Support a long-term plan for City of Memphis to rehabilitate and enhance a 311 citizen portal. Should be a more user-friendly constituent complaint intake system that allows internal divisions to communicate with one another – similar to the Develop901 website.
14. Launch a city-wide education and communication campaigns to increase awareness of and participation with CLEAN 901, including but not limited to:
 - a. Engage Memphis influencers with social media campaigns.
 - b. Post QR codes throughout the city and on city vehicles with information about how to properly dispose of waste, how to report blight and illegal dumping, and the 311 status of parcels. QR codes could also be used to link citizens to 311.

c. Greater investment in both youth and customer education. More digital resources, mailers, utilizing email and texting systems (allow residents to opt into collection reminder texts).

BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Memphis City Council remains committed to addressing blight and illegal dumping and adopts the foregoing recommendations to better address these challenges for the health, safety, and welfare of all the citizens of Memphis.

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