

ILLEGAL DUMPING PROGRAM



“To Serve our Customers and Protect the Environment”



Program Description:

Conducts inspection and investigation of illegal dumping incidents

- **Coordinates cleanup of dumped debris on street rights-of-way, roadways, alleys, and under bridges**
- **Contracts with the State Department of Corrections (DOC),**
- **Partners with community cleanup events to promote a clean city, and provides cleanup support to other SPU programs such as Spring Clean, Adopt-A-Street**



What is the Problem?

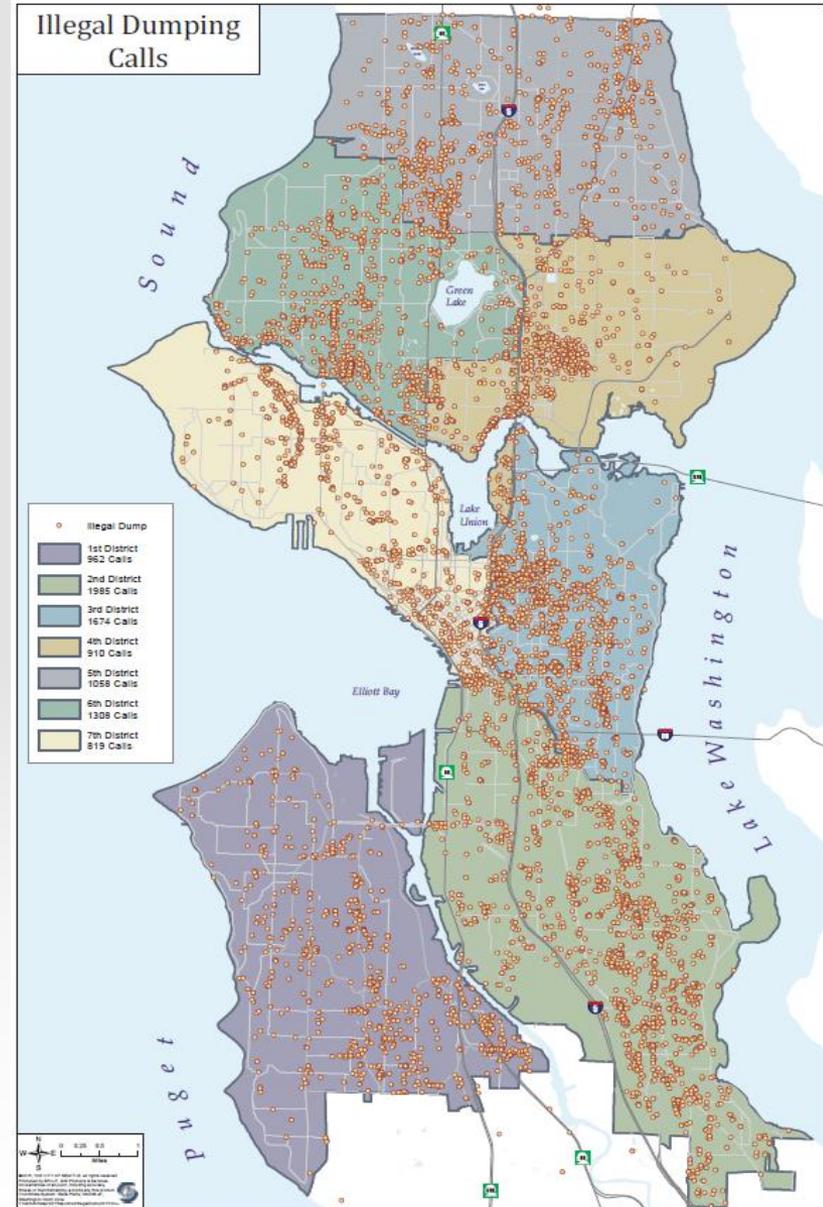
- Increase in the number of Illegal Dumping Customer Reports in the City of Seattle.
- Increased wait times for illegal dumping removal.
- Adapting to current citywide issues homeless encampments, rise in heroin drug use and hypodermic needles, and increase in population.

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Resources Expended –Illegal
Dumping Inspectors FTE 3.0

What is the budget for this
Program?

- 2013: \$826,238 (Spent).
- 2014: \$830,129 (Spent).
- 2015: \$932, 330 (Budgeted).
- Source of funding for the program is based on transfer station tonnage tax.



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2016 Priorities:

- Homeless encampments
- Hypodermic needles
- Rapid removal of illegal dumped material



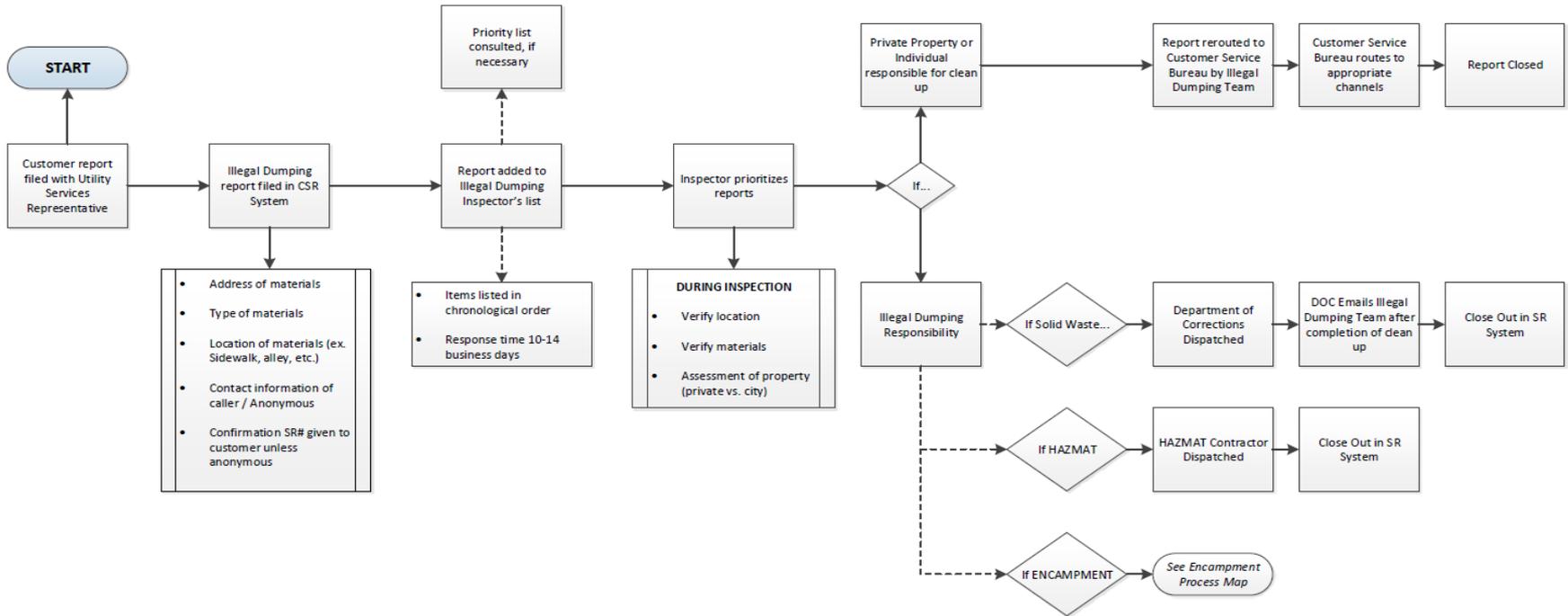
Current Situation

- The number of requests for cleaning up illegal dumping activity has gone from **5,956** for 2014, to **11,063** for the corresponding period in 2015. That's an increase of 75 percent.
- From January through December 2015, SPU's illegal dumping program removed and disposed of **1.1 million pounds** of illegal dumping materials and our inspection team responded to 11,063 illegal dumping service requests.
- 32 percent of those complaints were inspected within 10 days.
- 67 percent were abated within 20 days or less.
- Cross department and community collaboration to address illegal dumping on a citywide level.

Illegal Dumping Process Flow

ILLEGAL DUMPING: INTAKE PROCESS MAP

Customer Service Branch
Seattle Public Utilities





Department of Corrections 2014 Work Summary:

Removed and disposed of **1,839,042 pounds** of illegally dumped materials

Removed and recycled **98,797 pounds** of illegally dumped materials

Picked up over **5,424 bags** of litter from city streets

Picked up litter from an estimated **826 miles** of city streets

Cleaned approximately **8,768 illegal dumpsites** in our communities





Department of Corrections Work Summary:

Cleaned approximately 8,768 illegal dumpsites in our communities

Provided 9,964 hours of Correctional Officer Supervision to offenders in the community

Provided over 33,284 unpaid hours of community service in lieu of jail time

Converted 4,160 jail days into productive work and service to communities

Saved taxpayers over \$354,110 for bed costs not used





Desired Outcomes:

- 7-10 day turnaround time from customer complaint to removal
- Reduce illegal dumping backlog
- Create a status map for customers to track their illegal dumping complaints
- Coordinate cleanup of homeless encampments.
- Increase volunteer engagement opportunities
- Public Education and actions surrounding ways to proactively deter illegal dumping
- Improved Technology





Actions taken to improve program:

- Successfully investigated and resolved illegal dumping backlog by 80%
- Reallocate staffing and resources to address in increase in demand
- Working cooperatively with inter-departmental illegal encampment and Sharps team.
- Creation of public interface status map
- Supporting City Departments with illegal dumping cleanup program.
- Provide transfer station coupons for income eligible customers





Next Steps:

- Continue to work the action plan and provide course correction.
- Improve communications with customers and other City Departments
- Increase community stewardship around coordinated cleanups
- Education and Outreach
- Identify and implement improved technology



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