

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Wilson

SUBMITTAL DATE:
December 18, 2007

SUBJECT: Procurement of Additional Graffiti Abatement Vehicle to service the eastern portion of Riverside County.

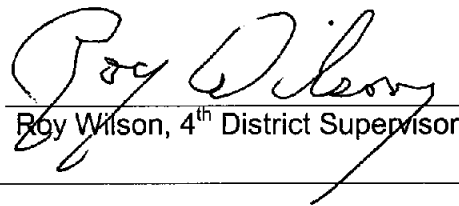
RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Authorize the procurement of an additional graffiti abatement vehicle from Dispensing Technology Corporation for use in the 4th District and portions of the 5th District to be funded with redevelopment funds; and,
2. Direct the Economic Development Agency (EDA) and the Executive Office to return to the Board with a funding proposal as part of the FY 2008/09 Budget, including the appropriate designation of general funds for services outside the redevelopment project area boundaries.

BACKGROUND:

In October 2006, EDA, with prior Board approval, launched the newly expanded graffiti abatement program for Western Riverside County, with the purchase of two state-of-the-art vehicles equipped with paint matching technology, and two staff members to operate each vehicle. With the new vehicles, and contracts with Inland Tri Tech, Valley Wide Recreation and Park District, Jurupa Community Services District, and Crowson Management, all unincorporated communities of Riverside County are being served. At the time of the Graffiti Abatement Program implementation, staff analysis of existing graffiti problems throughout the County indicated that the greatest benefit would be provided by acquiring trucks and hiring staff to provide in-house graffiti abatement services for portions of Western Riverside County. EDA currently operates three full time crews throughout the western portion of Riverside County.

(Background continued on page 2)



Roy Wilson, 4th District Supervisor

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Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District: 4

Agenda Number:

BACKGROUND: (continued)

Current graffiti abatement services for the 4th District and portions of the 5th District are provided by Crowson Management, an outside contractor. Crowson Management provides graffiti abatement services for all unincorporated areas of the 4th District, ranging from Ripley to Thousand Palms. The contractual obligation of Crowson Management also encompasses the 5th District areas of Whitewater, Desert Hot Springs and Desert Haven. The cost-benefit analysis conducted by staff in November 2005 determined that, for eastern Riverside County, a continuation of contractual services provided by Crowson Management would provide a greater cost benefit than a program operated with county-owned and staffed vans.

As graffiti becomes more prevalent throughout all regions of Riverside County, it has become evident that graffiti abatement services will need to be expanded in the eastern portions of the County. Primary concerns of residents of the 4th District include the turn-around time of graffiti removal and paint matching capabilities of the current removal services. The Economic Development Agency currently owns two state-of-the-art graffiti abatement vehicles, with a third currently being manufactured. In order to effectively serve the 4th and 5th Districts, EDA needs to purchase another vehicle and hire two additional staff to provide dedicated graffiti abatement services throughout the 4th District. Eastern portions of the 5th District, including Whitewater and Desert Hot Springs would be serviced by this vehicle as well.

Funding for the expansion of the program in the 4th District will be provided with redevelopment funds for areas located within the County's redevelopment project areas; however, an alternate source of funds such as community improvement funds, development agreement funds or County general funds would be required for those areas not within the boundaries of the redevelopment project areas. The cost for the 4th District is estimated as 50% redevelopment funds, and 50% non-redevelopment funds. The acquisition cost for a fully equipped graffiti abatement vehicle is approximately \$110,000. Staffing for each vehicle is composed of a painter and an assistant, at an approximate cost, including salary and benefits, of \$110,000 per year.

In order to expand the County staffed graffiti abatement program into the 4th and 5th Districts, I am requesting that the Board authorize the procurement of an additional vehicle. Furthermore, I am requesting the Executive Office and EDA to return to the Board with a funding proposal as part of the FY 08/09 Budget.