



MEMORANDUM

TO: Bruce K. Walden, Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: William R. Gray, Public Works Director
Eddie Adair, Police Chief
DATE: February 21, 2002
RE: Transfer of Nuisance Vehicle Enforcement

Action Requested

Transfer of nuisance vehicle enforcement activities from the Public Works Department to the Police Department.

Background

The Environmental Management Division in the Public Works Department was assigned nuisance enforcement activities in 1990. During this period, enforcement has been performed by one full time Environmental Control Officer (ECO). This program enforces vehicle, vegetation, waste (junk/debris) and other miscellaneous nuisances. Historically, vehicle enforcement comprises 50% of the nuisances investigated and processed (see attached summaries). Normally, about 15 –20% of vehicle complaints are eventually towed.

As can be seen from these summaries, during the last 5 years, vehicle complaints have increased to as much as 58% of all complaints, or close to 900 complaints a year or an average of almost 20 per week. Processing this number of vehicle complaints does limit the capability of the ECO to enforce other types of nuisance complaints.

A certain degree of vehicle enforcement overlap exists between the Parking Division in the Police Department and the Environmental Management Division. The ECO enforces abandoned and inoperable vehicle code provisions - on both public and private property - as well as 72 consecutive hour parking violations, specifically Articles 18 and 19 of the Local Traffic Code. These enforcement activities are, essentially, time related parking violations. The Parking Division enforces meter violations, municipal parking lots and the remainder of parking ordinances.

Discussion

Given the overlap in certain enforcement activities, City staff has discussed the possibility of consolidating vehicle nuisance enforcement into the Parking Division program. The following list has been developed providing rationale why this reorganization is being recommended.

1. All vehicle related issues would be handled by a single department:
 - A) Public can inquire to a single location as to status of vehicle (whether it may have been stolen, towed for code violation or other situation).
 - B) Availability for public inquiry would be enhanced to 24 hours per day, seven days per week.
 - C) All vehicles would pass through Police Department oversight.
2. Parking Division personnel can provide greater enforcement capability and redundancy given the number of enforcement personnel and their regular enforcement patrol areas.
3. Removes duplication of certain enforcement responsibilities (for example, once ECO determines a 72 hr. violation exists, Parking Division is contacted to issue parking ticket and then ECO continues with processing).
4. Transfer of vehicle enforcement from the ECO, will allow more time for enforcement of other nuisance complaints and initiate greater proactive measures to deter nuisance situations, especially considering expansion of city limits during recent years.

Budget Impacts

The current budget has allocated \$12,000 for additional part-time enforcement in the Public Works Department's Environmental Division. This money is proposed to be transferred via a budget amendment ordinance to the Police Department's Parking Division to employ a permanent part-time person. Additionally, next year's budget will reflect the existing hybrid electric vehicle that will be used at a replacement cost estimated to be \$22,500 (seven year life) and an annual operation and maintenance cost of \$1,500 per year. Prior to this vehicle being used, an existing motor pool vehicle will be used.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the attached budget amendment ordinance be approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 2002-02-019

AN ORDINANCE
REVISING THE ANNUAL BUDGET ORDINANCE
(Transfer of Nuisance Vehicle Enforcement)

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget Ordinance of and for the City of Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2002, (the "Annual Budget Ordinance") has been duly adopted according to sections 8-2-9.1 et seq. of the Illinois Municipal Code (the "Municipal Code") and Division 2, entitled "Budget", of Article VI, entitled "Finances and Purchases", of Chapter 2, entitled "Administration", of the Code of Ordinances, City of Urbana, Illinois (the "City Code"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the said City of Urbana finds it necessary to revise said Annual Budget Ordinance by deleting, adding to, changing or creating sub-classes within object classes and object classes themselves; and

WHEREAS, funds are available to effectuate the purpose of such revision; and

WHEREAS, such revision is not one that may be made by the Budget Director under the authority so delegated to the Budget Director pursuant to section 8-2-9.6 of the Municipal Code and section 2-133 of the City Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS, as follows:

Section 1. That the Annual Budget Ordinance be and the same is hereby revised to provide as follows:

TRANSFER EXPENSE Part-time Env. Control Officer, \$12,000 from
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Section 2. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval and shall not be published.

Section 3. This Ordinance is hereby passed by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the corporate authorities then holding office, the "ayes" and "nays" being called at a regular meeting of said Council.

PASSED by the City Council this _____ day of _____,
_____.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTAINED:

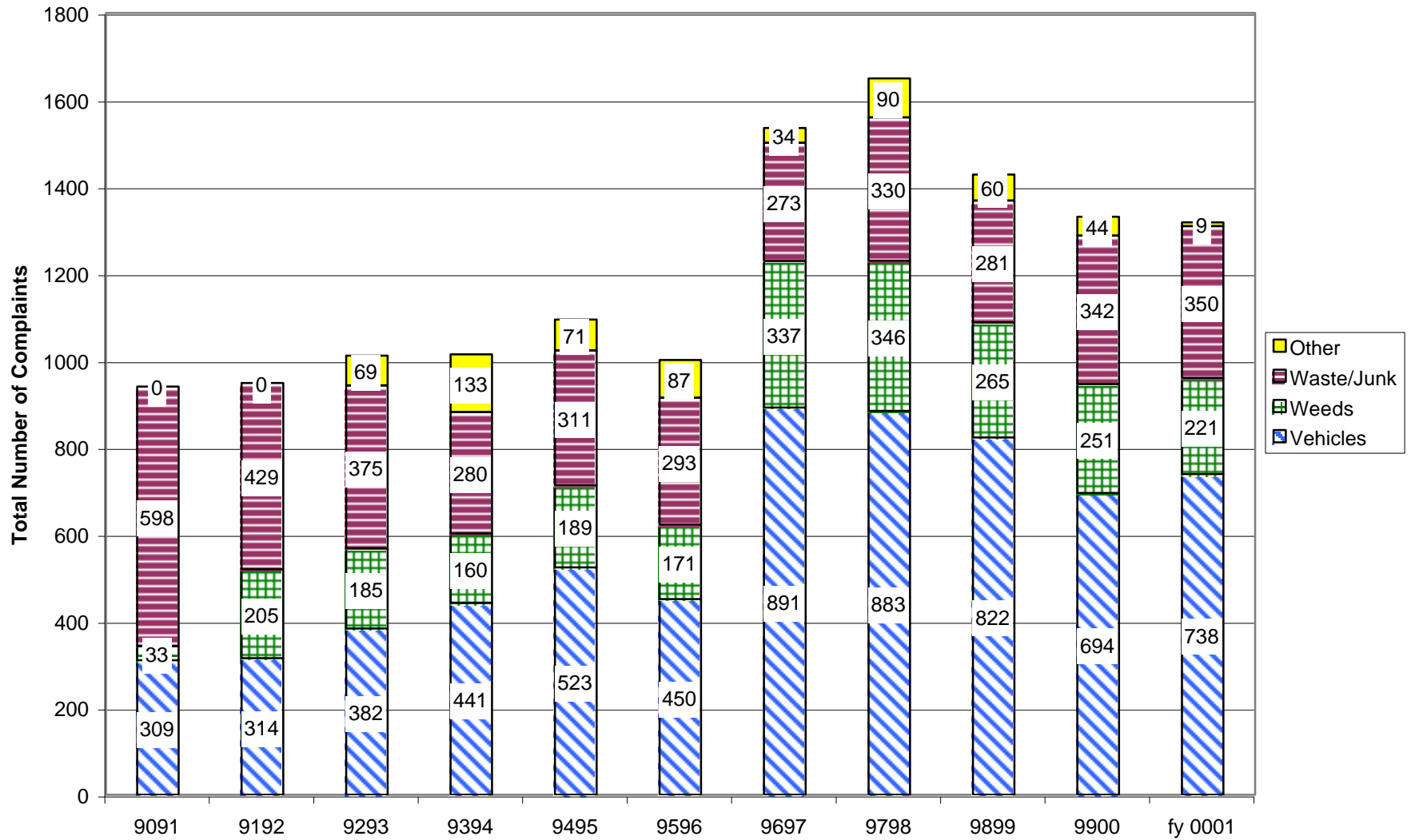
Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

APPROVED by the Mayor this _____ day of _____,
_____.

Tod Satterthwaite, Mayor

**City Of Urbana
Environmental Control Program
Annual Summary - All Complaints**

January 2002



**City of Urbana
Environmental Control Program
Annual Summary - All Complaints**

January 2002

Fiscal Year	Vehicles	%	Weeds	%	Waste/Junk	%	Other	%	Total
9091	309	33%	33	4%	598	64%	0	0%	940
9192	314	33%	205	22%	429	45%	0	0%	948
9293	382	38%	185	18%	375	37%	69	7%	1011
9394	441	43%	160	16%	280	28%	133	13%	1014
9495	523	48%	189	17%	311	28%	71	6%	1094
9596	450	45%	171	17%	293	29%	87	9%	1001
9697	891	58%	337	22%	273	18%	34	2%	1535
9798	883	54%	346	21%	330	20%	90	5%	1649
9899	822	58%	265	19%	281	20%	60	4%	1428
9900	694	52%	251	19%	342	26%	44	3%	1331
fy 0001	738	56%	221	17%	350	27%	9	1%	1318
Totals	6447		2363		3862		597		13269
Average	586	49%	215	18%	351	29%	54	4%	1206