

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE May 8, 2015

TO Honorable Members of the Quality of Life & Environment Committee:
Dwayne R. Caraway (Chair), Sandy Greyson (Vice Chair), Adam Medrano,
Rick Callahan, Carolyn R. Davis, and Lee M. Kleinman

SUBJECT Noise & Panhandling Ordinances and Enforcement

On Monday, May 11, 2015 you will be briefed on the noise & panhandling ordinances and enforcement. The briefing material is attached for your review

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eric D. Campbell".

Eric D. Campbell
Assistant City Manager

[Attachment]

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager
Warren M.S. Ernst, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager

Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Sana Syed, Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council
Chief David O. Brown, Dallas Police Department

Noise & Panhandling Ordinances and Enforcement

Monday, May 11, 2015

Quality of Life & Environment Committee



David O. Brown
Chief Of Police

History

On November 10, 2014, the Quality of Life & Environment Committee requested a follow-up briefing by the Dallas Police Department on inquiries raised during an initial briefing on various noise and solicitation issues within the City of Dallas

Purpose

To diminish celebratory noise violations and solicitation complaints in the City of Dallas

Dallas City Code

- Dallas City Code, Chapter 30 Noise
- Chapter 30. Noise, Sec. 30-1, Loud and Disturbing Noises and Vibrations
- A person commits an offense if he makes or causes to be made any loud and disturbing noise or vibration in the city that is offensive to the ordinary sensibilities of the inhabitants of the City.

Celebratory Noise Violations

- Task force operations conducted annually on both New Years Eve and Fourth of July
- Dallas Fire-Rescue personnel and Dallas Police Department personnel collaborate to enforce firework violations
- No person in the City or within 5,000 feet outside the City limits may manufacture, sell, offer to sale, give away, store, possess, or use fireworks

Celebratory Noise Media Push

- Enhanced public awareness campaign against gunfire during celebrations
- Media launch five days in advance of celebration
 - Press Releases
 - Promotional Videos
 - Social Media
 - City-wide Release
 - Press Conference
- Ask for community assistance in monitoring for violations

Celebratory Noise Violations

- Gunshot Detection System - Detects and conveys the location of gunfire or other weapon fire using acoustic and optical sensors
- Most recent quote - \$50,000 per square mile with a minimum purchase of 3 square miles. The first year (for 3 miles) costs 160K-170K

Solicitation/Panhandling Initiative

- Dallas City Code, Chapter 31, Sec. 31-35
- Solicitation by Coercion; Solicitation near Designated Locations and Facilities; Solicitation after Sunset; Solicitation-Free Zone
- A person commits an offense if he conducts a solicitation
 - By coercion
 - In any outdoor area anytime between sunset and sunrise
 - In any outdoor area within an established solicitation-free zone
 - CBD, Deep Ellum, Uptown, and Victory Park

Solicitation/Panhandling Initiative

- Patrol and Neighborhood Patrol Officers at several divisions conduct periodic homeless sweeps to eliminate aggressive panhandling and unsightly encampments
- Each patrol division currently utilizes at least two officers who primarily focus on panhandling concerns
- Reductions seen through repetitive intervention and collaborative efforts with Crisis Intervention

Panhandling Sign Pilot Program

- Novel approach to reducing panhandling incidents
- Installation of signs in areas where aggressive panhandlers generate complaints
- Encourages citizens who want to give to do so in a positive way that will make a real difference
- Pilot locations TBD





Summary

The Dallas Police Department will continue to minimize unwelcome disturbance and disruption of privacy while preserving public health, safety, and welfare

Questions??

Appendix

Solicitation/Panhandling Initiative

- Primary panhandling complaint locations:
 - Southeast Patrol
 - Grand Avenue/S.M. Wright Freeway (underneath freeway)
 - R.L.Thornton Freeway/Jim Miller Road (eastbound service road)
 - R.L.Thornton Freeway/Buckner Boulevard (eastbound service road)
 - R.L. Thornton Freeway/St. Francis Avenue
 - Martin Luther King/175 service roads
 - Northwest Patrol
 - Harry Hines Boulevard/Butler Street
 - Stemmons Freeway/Oak Lawn Avenue
 - Stemmons Freeway/Medical District
 - Stemmons Freeway/Inwood Road

Appendix

Solicitation/Panhandling Initiative

- Primary panhandling complaint locations:
 - Southwest Patrol
 - Interstate Highway 30/N. Cockrell Hill Road
 - Interstate Highway 20/S. Cockrell Hill Road
 - Loop 12/Davis and Jefferson Boulevard
 - Jefferson Corridor between Marsalis Avenue and Llewellyn Avenue
 - Central Patrol
 - 2608 Elm Street
 - 5671 E. Mockingbird Lane
 - 2810 Samuel Boulevard
 - Main Street/N. Akard Street

Appendix

Solicitation/Panhandling Initiative

- Primary panhandling complaint locations:
 - Northeast Patrol
 - North Central Expressway/8000 Forest Lane
 - North Central Expressway/8000 Park Lane
 - North Central Expressway/5600 E. Lovers Lane
 - Greenville Avenue/8200 Park Lane
 - North Central
 - Forest Lane/Central Expressway
 - Southwestern Boulevard/Central Expressway
 - George Bush Turnpike/Preston Road
 - Frankford Road/Tollway

Appendix

Solicitation/Panhandling Initiative

- Primary panhandling complaint locations:
 - South Central Patrol
 - Hampton Road/LBJ Freeway
 - Wheatland Road/LBJ Freeway
 - Lancaster Road/LBJ Freeway
 - Illinois Avenue/RL Thornton Freeway