

2018-2019 BUDGET QUESTION
Response to Request for Information

DEPARTMENT: Public Works and Watershed Protection

REQUEST NO.: 63

REQUESTED BY: Pool

DATE REQUESTED: 8/17/18

DATE POSTED: 8/27/18

REQUEST: What is the amount that the Public Works and Watershed Protection Departments are contributing to the homeless camp cleanup effort? Please describe those funds as an annual amount, not multi-year. Are there current cleanup efforts that are already funded to clean up homeless camps in and around our waterways for FY 2019?

RESPONSE:

For FY 2019, the Watershed Protection Department (WPD) is budgeting \$250,000 towards the Homeless camp cleanup effort. Currently, these efforts are funded through the operating budget of the Field Operations Division of the department only on an on-call basis, such as 3-1-1 or citizen concern calls, and the work is performed by WPD Field Operations staff. The funding for FY 2019 will allow WPD to work with an outside vendor to provide a more coordinated and broader scope of response.

Public Works is not contributing funds to the homeless cleanup effort; however, the department has approached Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) regarding homeless cleanups on State owned underpasses. TxDOT currently cleans these homeless camps once per month in accordance with our current Municipal Maintenance Agreement (MMA). For the City to assume this maintenance responsibility and associated costs (estimated at \$300,000 annually) would require an amendment to the existing MMA.