



Meeting Date: 10/24/06

ACTION	TYPE OF ITEM
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved Recommendation	<input type="checkbox"/> Info/Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Ord. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Res. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing (Info/consent)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Council Business

Prepared By: Cyndi Hookstra, Management Analyst III  Agenda Item No. N-2

Reviewed By: City Manager  City Attorney  Finance  Public Works
Other (Specify) _____

DATE: October 18, 2006

TO: City Council

FROM: Michael Henderson, Deputy Public Works Director 

SUBJECT: Establish an Official Victim Impact Statement Reply to the Ventura County Probation Agency Detailing the Damage Graffiti Causes the City.

RECOMMENDATION

That City Council:

1. Approve the official Victim Impact Statement, and
2. Designate Cyndi Hookstra, Graffiti Task Force Administrator, as the person authorized to submit the statement to the Ventura County Probation Agency as part of the City's graffiti restitution recovery program.

DISCUSSION

The mission of the City Council and the Graffiti Task Force is to create clean, safe and prosperous neighborhoods by eradicating graffiti in the City through Prevention, Intervention and Enforcement.

Through these three focused areas, the City has been able to make significant progress in the citywide fight against graffiti. The Graffiti Task Force has established prevention efforts through community outreach and education, resident GAK bucket volunteers, and GAP graffiti removal efforts. Youth graffiti intervention is provided through a partnership with City Corp and the Ventura County Probation Agency. Graffiti vandals are required to serve community service and receive counseling through this partnership and their service time is monitored by City staff to ensure they serve all of the court ordered time. Graffiti enforcement has been provided through stricter City ordinances and fines, focused police department resources, code compliance and a legal restitution recovery program.

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As part of the restitution recovery program the City is able to legally recover the cost of graffiti removal from the convicted graffiti vandals and/or their parents. Under this restitution recovery program the victim, in this instance the victim is the City and its residents, is allowed to provide the court a Victim Impact Statement. This statement explains how the crime or loss has affected the victim. Attached is the City's Victim Impact Statement. This will be submitted to the court or to the Ventura County Probation Agency as part of the restitution recovery program. Staff recommends the electronic signatures of all members of City Council be added to the bottom of this statement.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact.

MH/clh

Attachment #1 – Victim Impact Statement

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GRAFFITI TASK FORCE



G.A.P.
GRAFFITI ACTION PROGRAM



Dr. Thomas E. Holden, Mayor
Andres Herrera, Mayor Pro Tem
Dean Maulhardt, Councilmember
John C. Zaragoza, Councilmember
Timothy B. Flynn, Councilman

City of Oxnard Victim Impact Statement

The City Council of the City of Oxnard has established a zero tolerance policy for graffiti vandalism. Graffiti vandalism is a crime, costs the taxpayers of Oxnard close to \$1 million a year to remove the graffiti and investigate and prepare cases for prosecution.

Graffiti vandalism is no longer a juvenile prank or petty crime. Graffiti is a costly intentional act of vandalism that costs the city, its residents and businesses more than just money. Graffiti vandalism breeds a sense of insecurity and attracts other types of crime to the neighborhoods scarred by its aftermath. The hard working people of Oxnard do not want to see graffiti in their city and they want the vandals and their parents held accountable.

The City of Oxnard desires to have convicted graffiti vandals reimburse the taxpayers for every dime of damage they cause and give back to the community in a positive way through mandatory community service hours.

Respectfully,

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