



Action Taken and Follow-Up Items Code Enforcement Meeting, September 6, 2007

Action Taken

Code Enforcement staff was directed to proceed with implementation of a proactive approach to code enforcement. This will require reorganizing so CAPS and Code Enforcement are under common supervision and the establishment of four districts matching existing Police precincts. Individual inspectors will be assigned to specific territories so that each inspector has an area in which they are accountable to respond to complaints and perform proactive inspections.

The conversion to a proactive approach to code enforcement and the establishment of specific territories for each inspector will require 5 additional positions. The Director of Budget & Strategic Planning was directed to identify 5 vacant positions in the organization and arrange to have them shifted to Code Enforcement.

Follow-up Items & Questions

1. What is the collection rate on fines and billings for environmental code enforcement? How many liens have been issued?
2. Is it possible to block issuance of City vehicle registrations to individuals with unpaid code enforcement fines or billings?
3. Develop an estimate of the amount spent by the City (Community Development and Department of Public Works) collecting items left behind by VCU students. Explore the viability of possible approaches to resolving this issue, including:
 - Contracted collection by VCU or contribution to costs incurred by City.
 - At the end of each semester, deploy resources to this specific issue prior to receiving complaints.
 - Educate landlords as to the impact of illegal dumping by students and encourage them to provide dumpsters as necessary.
4. Work with the Office of the Press Secretary to develop a plan to educate the public about their responsibilities regarding trash collection, bulk collection and property maintenance. (Progress to be reported at November 29 RichmondWorks meeting on code enforcement.)