

Encampment Trash Program RV Remediation Pilot

Customer Review Panel
February 26, 2020

Clean City Programs



Keeping Seattle clean is an essential element of a safe and vibrant community. Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) has several programs to clean up or reduce litter and debris. These services have expanded as needs have evolved.



All Clean City programs are funded through Seattle's General Fund. In 2020, about \$10.5 million was budgeted for these efforts. Approximately 8% of Clean City budget is allocated for unsheltered services.



Encampment Trash Program

Goal: to deliver effective service options for garbage collection at unsanctioned homeless encampments (UHEs).

SPU selects UHEs to service, based on:



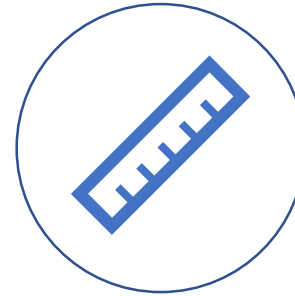
Safe traffic & pedestrian conditions



Safe conditions for encampment residents



Safe conditions for outreach



Trash collection location at least 20 ft away



Site not immediately scheduled for removal

Activities in each UHE include:



Disposal of garbage in designated collection areas



Disposal of bulky items encountered



Disposal of hazardous materials encountered



Coordination with local outreach non-profit groups

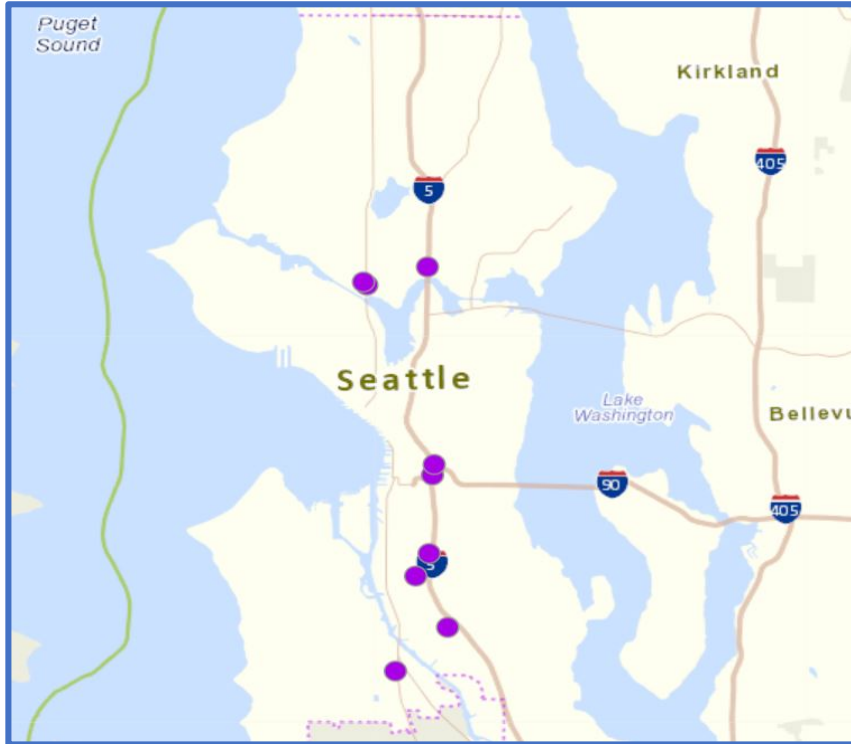


Distribution of authorized (purple) bags



On-call trash pick-up for items 20ft from active camp

2019 Annual Highlights



Continually service 10 UHEs city-wide

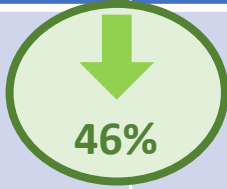






Redesigned bags



Contract agreement for outreach

2019 Encampment Trash Results

	2017	2018	2019	3 Yr Cumulative
Garbage Collected	238,000	490,640	 46% 263,439	992,079
People contacted	587	4,695	 26% 3,478	8,760
Bags Distributed	7,800	25,731	 32% 33,944	67,475
Bags collected	2,506	4,180	 13% 3,628	10,121 (15%)
Sharps Collected		10,809	 96% 21,147	31,956

Next Steps

- Exploring paying homeless individuals to collect and dispose garbage.
- Expand existing consultant contracts with non-profit outreach providers.
- Expand garbage collection to service 10-20 sites at any given time.
- Continue exploring options for improved sharps collection in UHEs.



RV Remediation Pilot

Goal: to allow for safe clean-up of areas with problematic RVs and vehicles in the City right-of-way (ROW).

An inter-departmental team selects RV hot spots to clean, based on:



Health Risks



Safety Risks



Occupancy

Inter-Departmental Team (IDT)

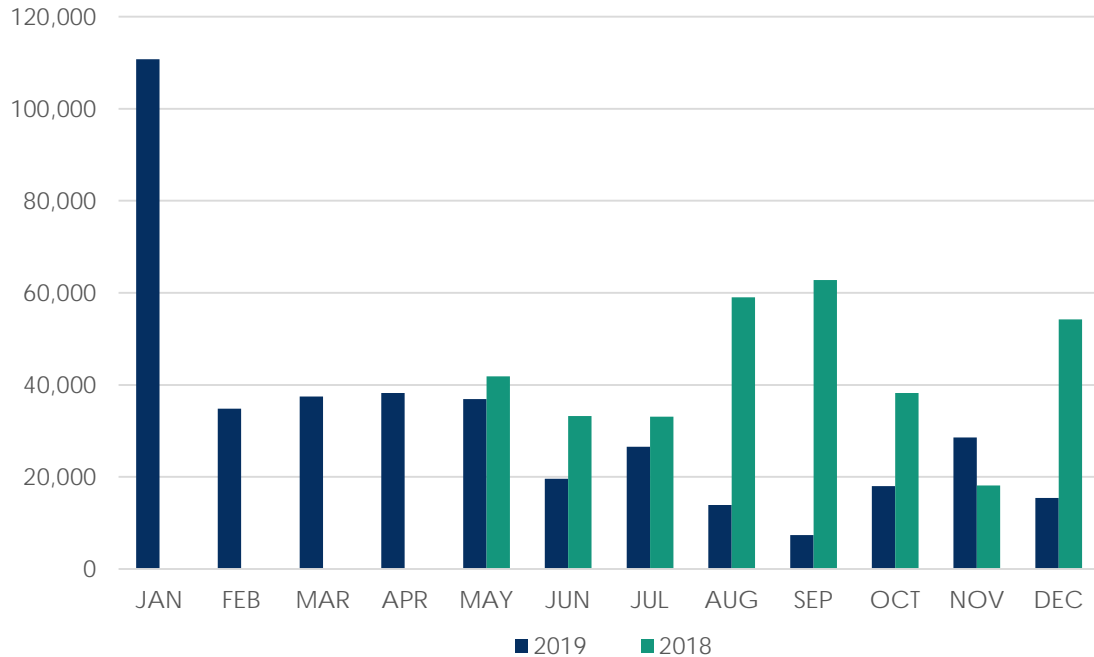
- **Seattle Public Utilities**
 - Illegal Dumping
 - Spill Response & RV pump out pilot
- **Seattle Police Department**
 - Community Police Team (CPT-Patrol)
 - Parking Enforcement (Traffic)
- **Human Service Department**
 - Navigation Team
 - System Navigators
- **Finance and Administrative Services**
 - Junk vehicle affidavits
 - Seattle Animal Shelter
- **Parks & Recreation Department**
- **Seattle Department of Transportation**

External Partners

- **Outreach Non-profits**
 - Salvation Army
 - Union Gospel Mission
 - YouthCare
 - REACH
 - Hepatitis Education Project
- **BIA's**
- **Lincoln Towing**
- **Burlington Northern**

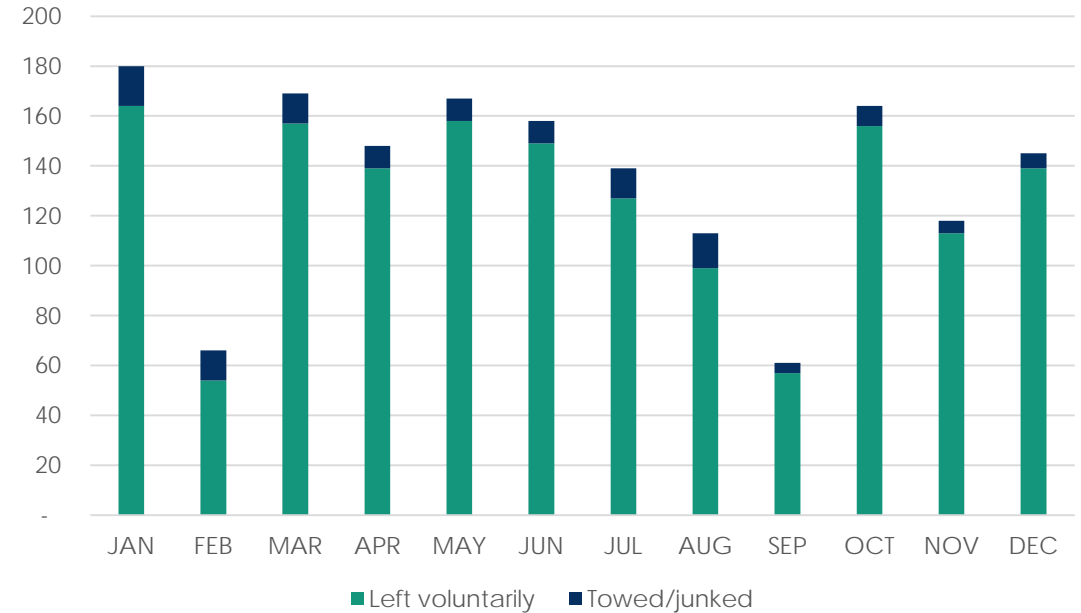
2019 RV Remediation Results

Garbage collected



In 2019, the RV Team collected **387,495** pounds of litter and spent a total of **191** hours cleaning. Crews also completed **12** “scrapes” on RVs/vehicles posing an immediate hazard (fire and/or structural damage).

RVs/vehicles that were towed or junked

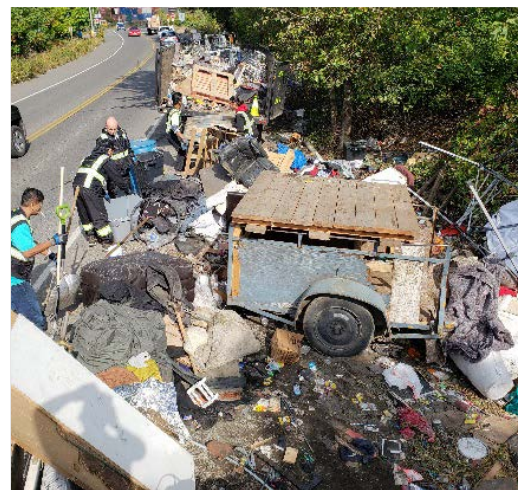


In 2019, **1,512** (93%) of all RVs/vehicles encountered left voluntarily. Only **116** (7%) RVs/vehicles did not move and were towed or junked.

Next Steps

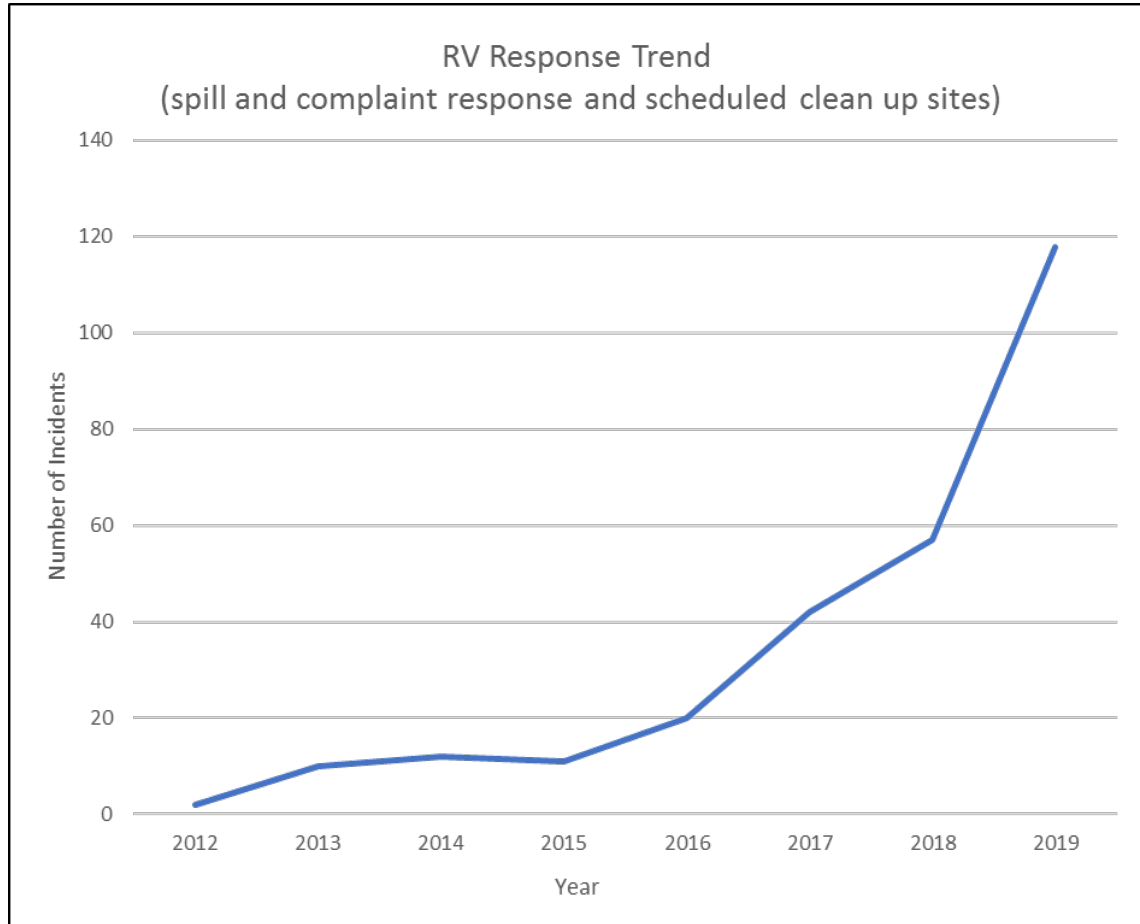
- Integrate non-profit outreach providers into the RV Protocol.
- Potential Expansion of the number of pilot sites serviced.
- Update data tracking and monitoring on SharePoint site.
- Integrate long-range planning capacity into RV Remediation Protocols.
- Explore pressure washing in clean up activities.
- Continue collaboration with SPU's RV pump out pilot





RV Wastewater Pilot

RV Spill Incidents on the Rise



Mission:

To ensure that every resident of the City of Seattle, regardless of housing status, has a safe and clean means for disposal of human waste.



Human Centered Approach

- Distribute services by leveraging existing Outreach community.
- SPU providing a new tool for a familiar face.

Community Outreach Partnerships:

- Sodo BIA
- REACH
- St. Vincent DePaul
- Navigation Team



RV Wastewater Pilot

- Utilize Private Vendors to pump out blackwater
- Not a controlled study



RV Mobile Pump Outs

- 14 RV tanks pumped out of 20 service attempts.
- Failure due to clogged plumbing
- 2 RV Dwellers admitted illegally dumping waste in recent past
- Estimate 700 gallons of waste collected



Cost vs Budget

*Pilot Program supported
by General Fund
Allocation of \$180,000 for
2020*

- Vendor costs average \$150/RV
- Pilot Goal to capture 10% of theoretical waste load.
- Significant uncertainty in level of need to service entire community:
 - # of RV's with tanks?
 - Rate to fill at tank?
 - Latent demand?

Future Plans



Permanent RV Dump
Station Options Analysis
in Progress



Potential for Homeless
response required in City
NPDES stormwater permit
issued by State in 2024

**Thank you.
Questions?**

