

## Commonly Asked Questions and Responses by the Graffiti Task Force

### **How can we strengthen graffiti vandalism penalties and laws?**

- increase fines
- use all the tools available: community service, restitution, restorative justice, etc
- create a mandatory sentencing package
- work with other jurisdictions to create similar laws
- work with the state to increase penalties and create new laws

### **How can we hold the parents accountable for the actions of their children?**

- Increase sanctions against parents of minors, including a civil suit
- hold parents responsible for paying fines and attending all probation meetings with the juvenile
- clean up graffiti with juvenile

### **What are the needed additional police resources to better manage graffiti vandalism?**

- decentralize services to the districts
- increase the use of technology
- create a data management system to be used by abatement (private and public) and enforcement.
- mobilize community members to help with specialized stings, enforcement, education, etc.

### **How can we make graffiti removal more efficient?**

- use the zone process to create “hot zones” for targeted removal
- increase Public Works resources
- removal of graffiti without permission of the owner
- mobilize community members and associations to remove graffiti
- create penalties for negligent removal by property owners
- increase access to cleanup supplies
- provide “how to” education for removal
- implement a paint color match program

### **What can be done to prevent graffiti vandalism?**

- encourage prevention of graffiti through technology, landscaping, coverings, etc
- educate youth and parents on the value of property and the harm of vandalism
- create “ownership” of graffiti in parents, schools, city agencies, law enforcement and citizens

### **What alternatives are available to increase pro-social use of time and expression?**

- create a comprehensive set of alternatives including murals and other artistic outlets.
- increase opportunities for youth employment

### **When will the Task Force release their recommendations?**

- phase I of the recommendations will likely be released in early June
- following phase 1 will be an evaluation period and research on phase II recommendations