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R. Eric Slagle
Director of Development Services

David Fuller
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TO: Eileen Donoghue, City Manager *EMD*

FROM: R. Eric Slagle, Director of Development Services

DATE: June 18, 2020

RE: Motion by C. Chau - Req. City Mgr. Direct The Clean-Up Of Dumped Materials, Trash And Other Public Health Related Debris In The Areas Of Washington Street (Near Leverett Street), Leverett Street, (Near Cambridge Street), And Along Both Sides Of The Adjacent Lowell Connector (Along River Meadow Brook).

This memorandum addresses the request from Councilor Chau regarding the cleanup of several locations adjacent or in proximity to the Lowell Connector.

Once Development Services staff received the complaint regarding trash on Washington St. and Leverett St., we had an inspector onsite to document the issues. It was determined that bags of trash had been illegally dumped on the streets and some other items were dumped at the City property at 51 Leverett St., which directly abuts the Connector right-of-way.

Development Services worked with DPW to have the dumped items immediately removed, including the items at 51 Leverett St. In addition, DPW is going to clear the underbrush at 51 Leverett St. to discourage any further dumping. We will keep these areas on our watch list to discourage further dumping.

With regards to the trash and dumping directly adjacent to the Lowell Connector, this area is within the jurisdiction of MassDOT. This is the site of a mostly abandoned homeless camp (as of the last check, which was several weeks ago). Additionally, there has been a spate of illegal dumping at the site that is not related to the homeless camp. Back in early 2020, the City Manager's Office reached out to MassDOT to request that the area be cleaned up. Unfortunately, MassDOT put a hold on cleanups of this kind during the pandemic, so the City will be renewing our request for this clean-up now that the state is beginning to resume more normal operations.

ES
06/18/2020