

## TRRG Code Enforcement Update, 4/30/2022

Code Enforcement had a busy year handling 8,938 cases. The Tucson Police Department Community Service Officers (CSOs) were asked to investigate 1,644 of those cases, which were for weeds and junked motor vehicles (JMV's). As of December 2021, Code Enforcement has taken back the job of investigating weed complaints and left JMV's with TPD. Nine inspectors with an average of 682 cases each handled the remaining 7,292 cases. Three hundred eighty-four citations were issued and 520 court hearings held, with an average of 10 hearings a week. The court hearings were backlogged for several months due to the pandemic. The resulting workload was a total of 12, 897 inspections conducted. The rainy season brought an influx of weed complaints, 850 cases plus those that TPD had not completed.

CE was challenged on several fronts. The City's Independent Audit and Performance Commission (IAPC) took on Code Enforcement as its project November, 2020 after a request in March 2020 by Ward 3 Council member Paul Durham. They met a total of 12 times, however, due to the pandemic, lack of a quorum of members, no report has been prepared, despite close to 28 hours of ES and CE staff time showing and explaining how Code Enforcement works to the Commission.

The promised new software EnerGov that will replace Permits Plus was tested over 2021 and people trained. Unfortunately, it is still not operational. They are hoping to have it working by August..

Code Enforcement and Graffiti abatement, who are funded by the General Fund, with \$2,848,940 adopted ended up under budget by \$342,403. Code Enforcement has been understaffed for many years and will be hiring for a possible 5 more Code Inspectors in 2022. Three inspectors were recently hired during the recent City of Tucson Job fairs.

Hopefully with more inspectors and a coherent computer system to report and track complaints, send out letters of violations and note closed cases, CE can help Tucson be an attractive and safe community.