

Scrap Tire Ordinance Update



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Solid Waste Management Department

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DRAFT 09/10/2015

Overview of Scrap Tire Challenge

- Over 24 million tires discarded each year in Texas, lots of space, additional tire imports, and an international border;
- December 2010 TCEQ review of scrap tire management did not identify any issuances with compliance, however, Houston's experience is contradictory;
- It costs the City of Houston, Solid Waste Management Department approximately **\$1 million annually** to collect and dispose of illegally dumped debris including tires.

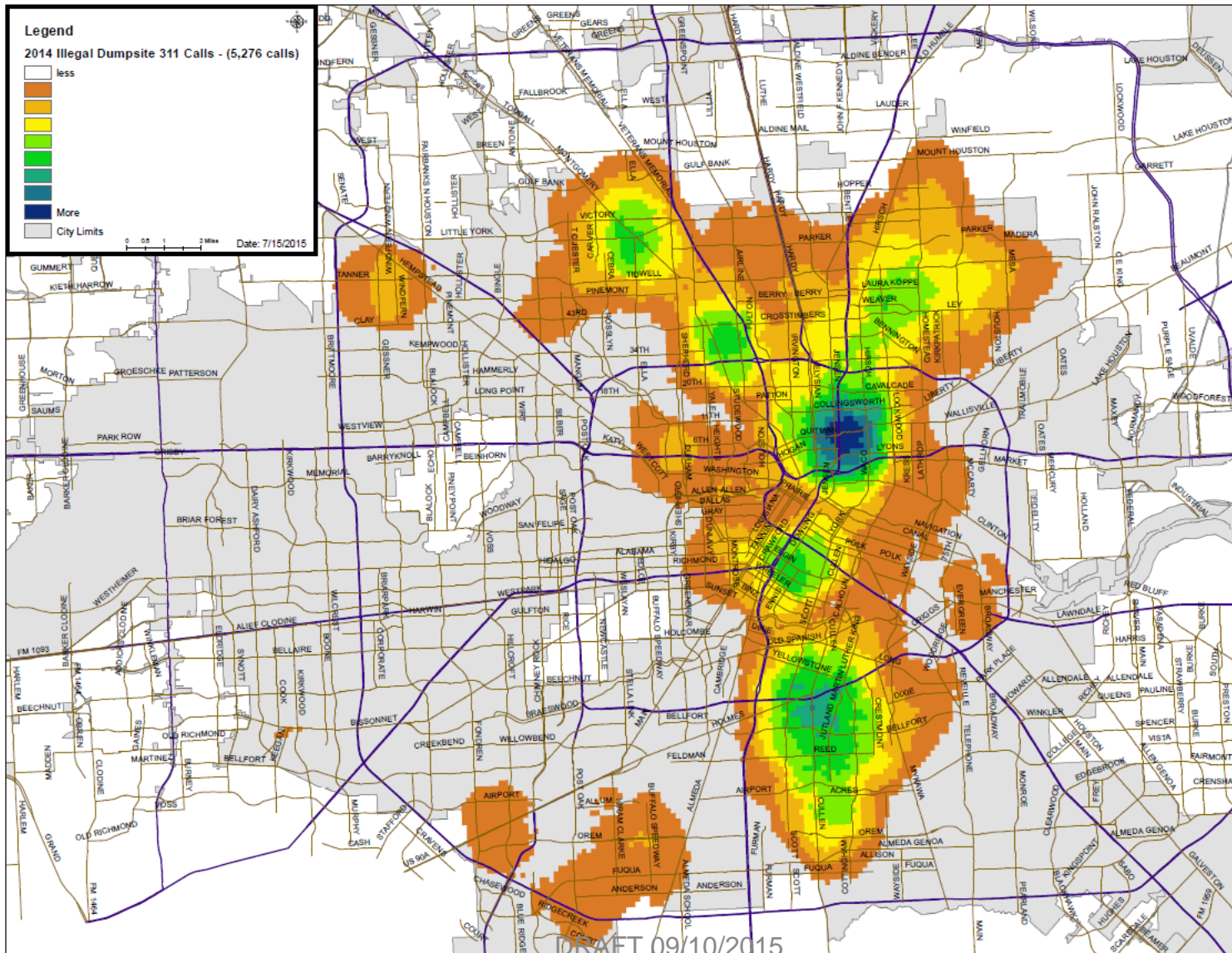


Hazards of Illegally Dumped / Improperly Stored Scrap Tires

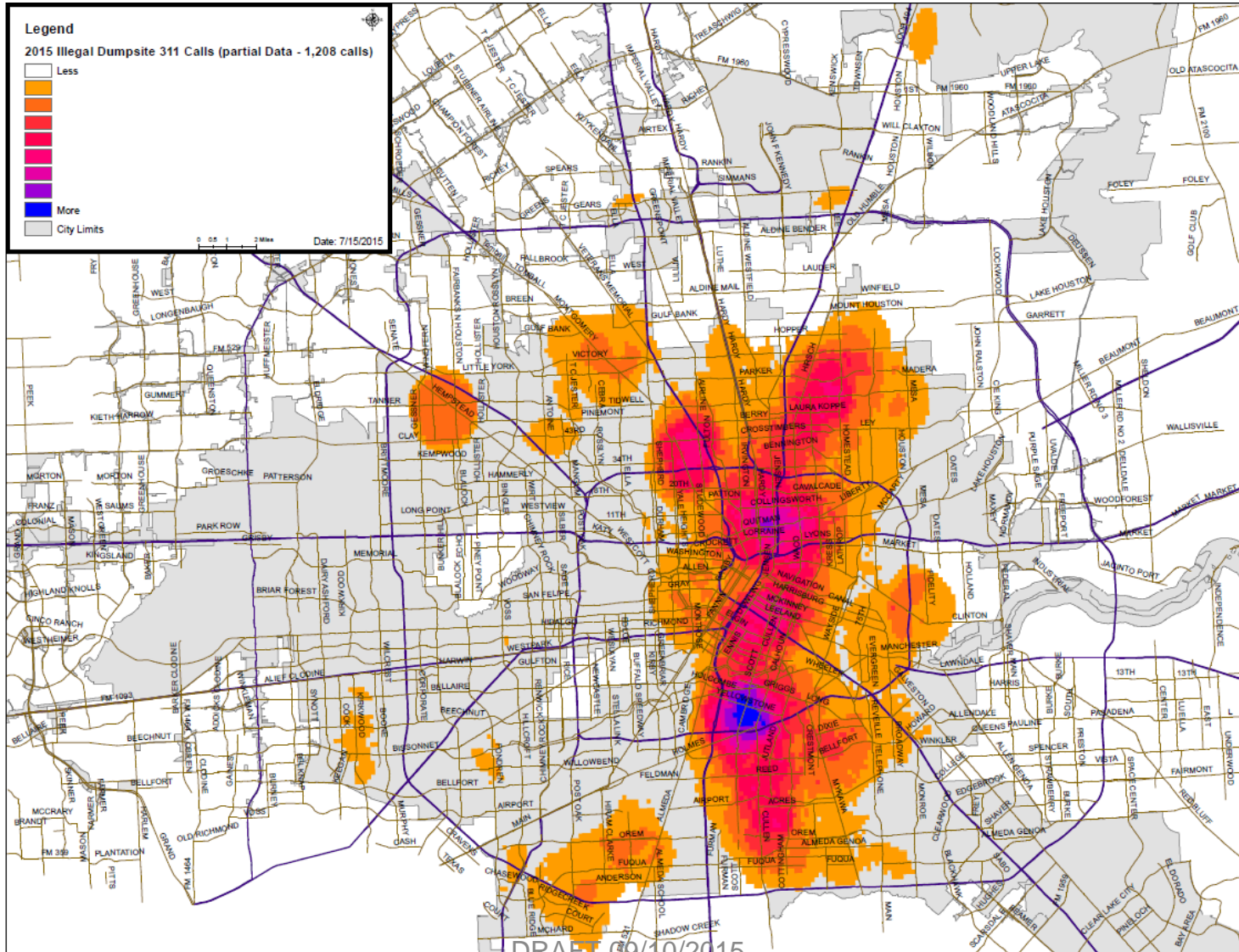
- Fire
 - Water does not adequately penetrate/cool
 - Often fires have to “burn themselves out”
- Mosquito & Vector breeding
 - Breeding ground with standing water
 - Snake haven
 - Rat haven
- Pollution
 - Could release hydrocarbons and other contaminants into environment



Illegal dumping calls to 311 2014



Illegal dumping calls to 311 2015 (YTD)



Current COH Management of Tire Issues

TIRE REGULATIONS WITHIN THE CITY OF HOUSTON		
VIOLATION	ENFORCING DEPARTMENT	ORDINANCE VIOLATED
Improper storage	Health	Chapter 21, Article 7
Illegal dumping (early set out of heavy trash)	HPD	Chapter 39, Article 4
Improper transport	Health	Chapter 21, Article 7
Incomplete or missing manifest	HPD	Chapter 21, Article 7
PERMISSIONS REQUIRED	GRANTING DEPARTMENT	ORDINANCE AUTHORITY
Liscense to sell tires, new or used	HPD Auto Dealer's Division	Chapter 8, Article 2
Liscense to change tires	HPD Auto Dealer's Division	Chapter 8, Article 3

Scrap Tire Program Purpose

- To establish regulations and procedures for the safe transportation, appropriate storage, accurate record-keeping, and proper disposal of used or scrap tires



Examples of Violations

- No or improper record keeping
- No or incomplete manifest
- Improper disposal
- Unpermitted transport
- Unregistered facility



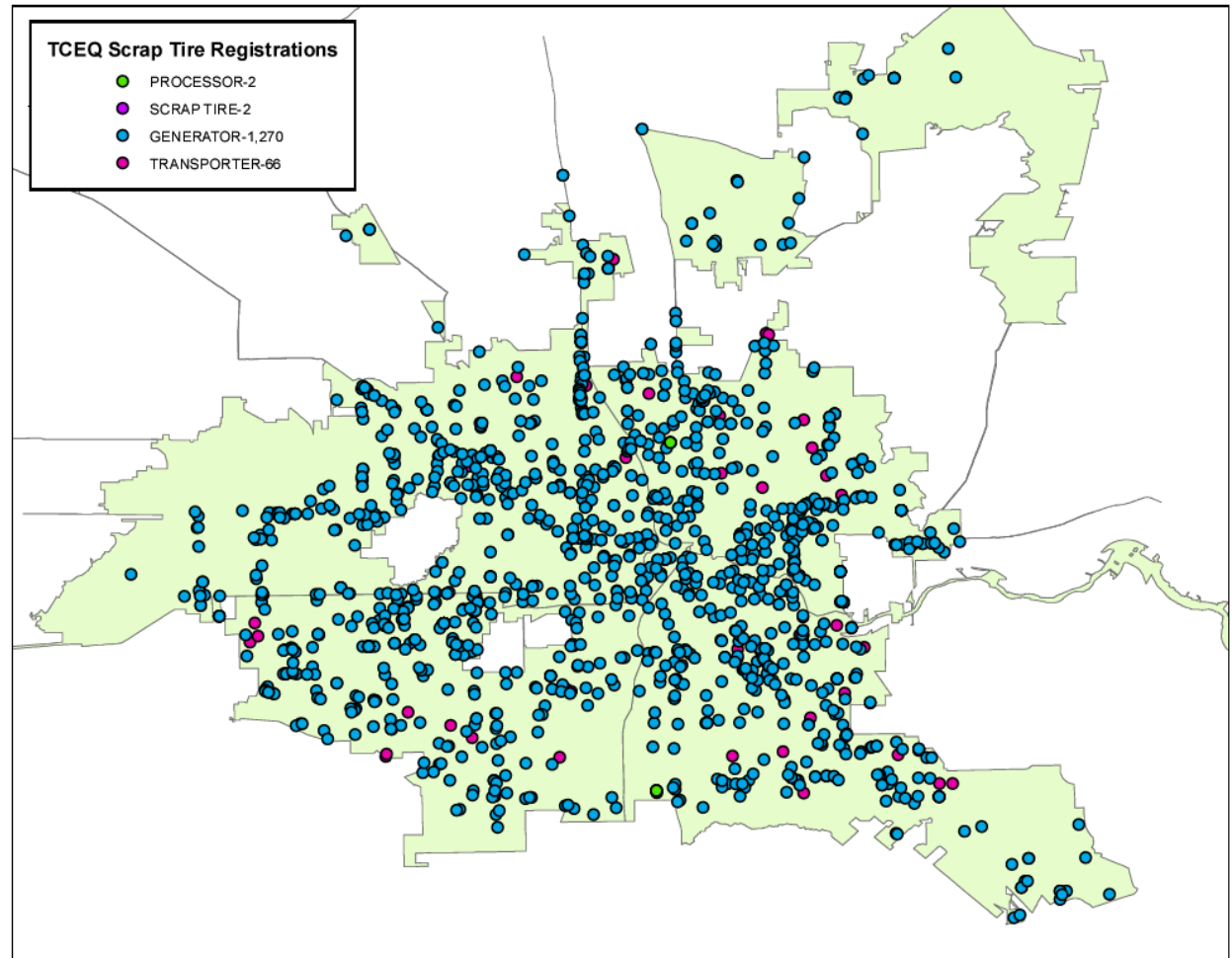
TIRE FACILITY WITH NUMEROUS SCRAP TIRES



Used/Scrap Tire Entities

Registered with TCEQ

- 86 Transporters
- 1,576 Generators
- 1 Transportation Facility
- 6 Scrap Tire Facility
- 1 Storage Facility
- 6 Processors
- 1 Land Reclamation Project Using Tires (LRPUT)



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Stakeholder Engagement

- **Internal: Solid Waste Management, Health and Human Services, Houston Police Department**
 - Meetings to discuss current practices and policies;
 - Completed paperwork to transfer program to the Solid Waste Department.
- **External: Tire shops and tire transporters**
 - Mailed letters, held meetings, and incorporated feedback into project plan;
 - Canvassed the entire geographic area of Houston to personally visit with each business.



What Did We Learn?

- Visited nearly 4,000 businesses
- Covered ~100% of the City area and ETJ
- Common feedback:
 - Many shops are not registered with TCEQ and/or don't know they need to be
 - Lots of tires end up cut and in dumpsters
 - About 70% have complete manifests on hand
- Good actors want to reduce bad actors as much as the City would like to do.

Proposed Improvements

- Permit each tire transporter including the issuance of decals to be displayed on trucks hauling tires within the City limits;
- Register each tire generator annually to allow inspection of their manifest records;
- Increase audit frequency and depth of manifest records kept by both generators and transporters.



Chapter 39 Updates

- Open storage of tires prohibited; nuisance
- Tires must be secured, stacked, organized
- Registration required for tire storage
 - For record keeping/documentation purposes
 - One time \$26 admin fee; plus one time registration fee of \$43
- Permit required for tire transport
 - Name, address, contact information, business occupation, appropriate decals on vehicles
 - One time \$26 admin fee; plus annual fee of \$118, with added fee of \$21 per truck and \$11 per driver
- Tires must be manifested and records will be inspected routinely.

Current Actions and Next Steps

- Worked with Finance Department to review fees associated with the program, and perform cost analysis;
- Ready to move forward for City Council consideration and action;
- Concurrently working with state and national agencies and organizations to implement a better statewide program.
- If approved, program would begin January 1, 2016; with a six month grace period for compliance.

State legislative review

- 84th Legislature: SB 1242 Rodriguez, passed one vote in the Senate Transportation Committee
 - Would have required financial assurance (\$25,000 surety bond) from tire transporters to be used to clean up tire stockpiles if recouped;
 - Display insignia provided by TCEQ on every truck operated in the state of Texas;
 - Renew registration annually.
- 83rd Legislature: SB 459 Rodriguez, similar bill but main aim was to prevent customers from taking tires with them after purchasing new tires
- 82nd Legislature: HB 2871 and HB 405

Contact Information

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