



City of Dallas

City of Dallas Donation Box Registration Program

Quality of Life, Arts and Culture
August 15, 2022

Lynetta Kidd, Director (I)
Katina Robertson, Administrator
Odie Hayes, District Manager
Renee Paramo, Supervisor

Code Compliance Services

Presentation Overview



- Background/History
- Purpose
- Issues/Operational or Business Concerns
- Proposed Changes
- Next Steps



Donation Box History



- Contributes to unsightly neighborhood blight and illegal dumping
- Contributors leave unregulated items despite donation box labeling (i.e., furniture, appliances, and bulky trash)
- Operators fail to service the donation boxes in a timely manner
- Donation box operators do not obtain consent from property owners before donation box placement
- Difficult to identify Donation Box owner and or contact information is not available to address concerns surrounding the donation box



Purpose of the Donation Box Registration Program



Eliminate nuisance and blight in the neighborhood associated with donation boxes

Establish operator/owner accountability regarding donation boxes

Assist in regulating the use of donation boxes using time, placement, and manner restrictions

Regulate donation box placement in certain zoned districts



Donation Box Defined



Donation box is any unattended outdoor container, receptacle, or similar device, designed with a door, slot, or other opening that is used for soliciting and collecting donations of textiles, clothing, shoes, books, toys, dishes, and other salvageable items of personal property (Law Insider, 2022).



Donation Box Issues/ Operational and Business Concerns



9009 Bruton (CD-5) 07/21/2022



2984 W. Wheatland (CD-8)



11411 E. Northwest Highway (CD-9)

The **visual** expectation of Donation Boxes and the surrounding area



10650 Audelia (CD-10)



5616 Abrams (CD-14)



Donation Box Issues/ Operational and Business Concerns



1506 S. Buckner Blvd (CD-5)



2072 Singleton Blvd (CD-6)



4343 Gannon Ln (CD-8)



3460 Webb Chapel Ext (CD-2)

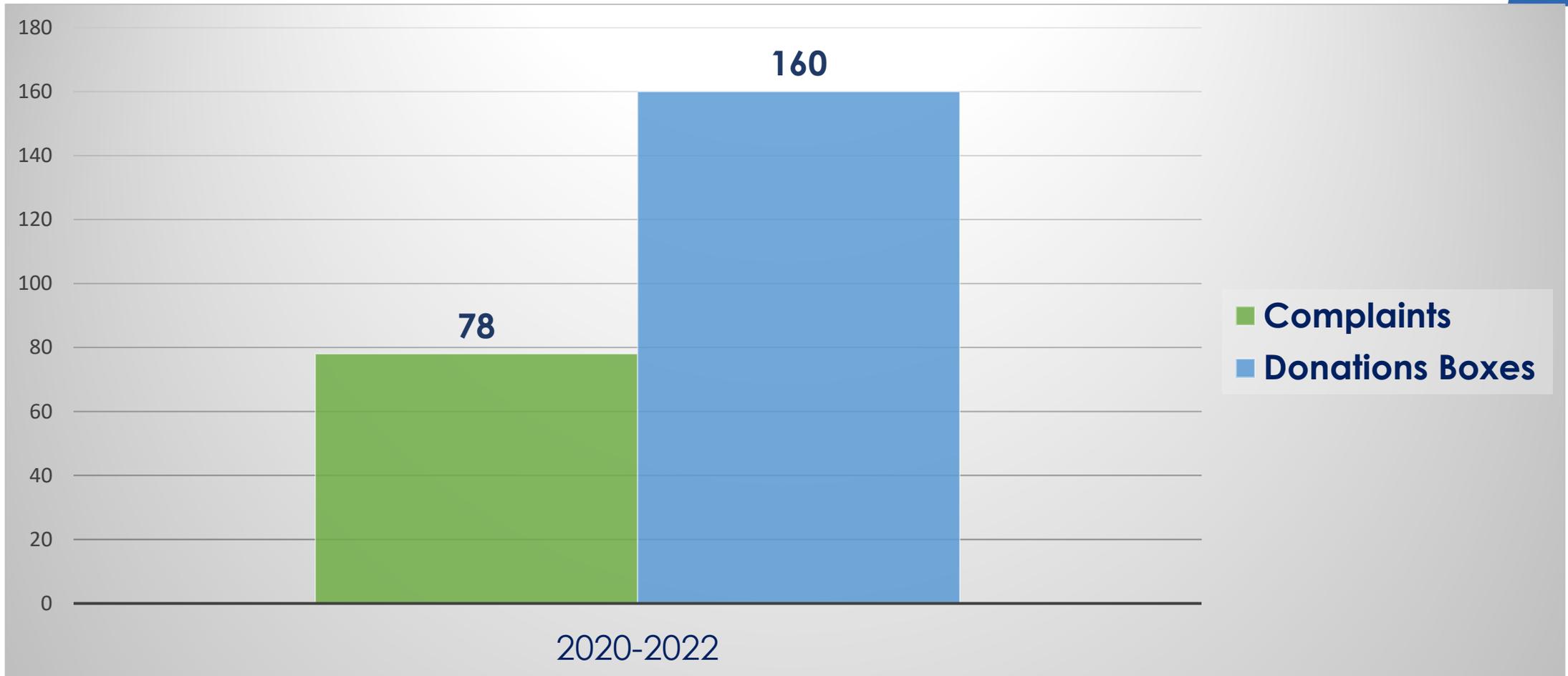


6940 S. Cockrell Hill Rd (CD-3)

Current visual inspections revealed 35% of 160 boxes were in the depicted state



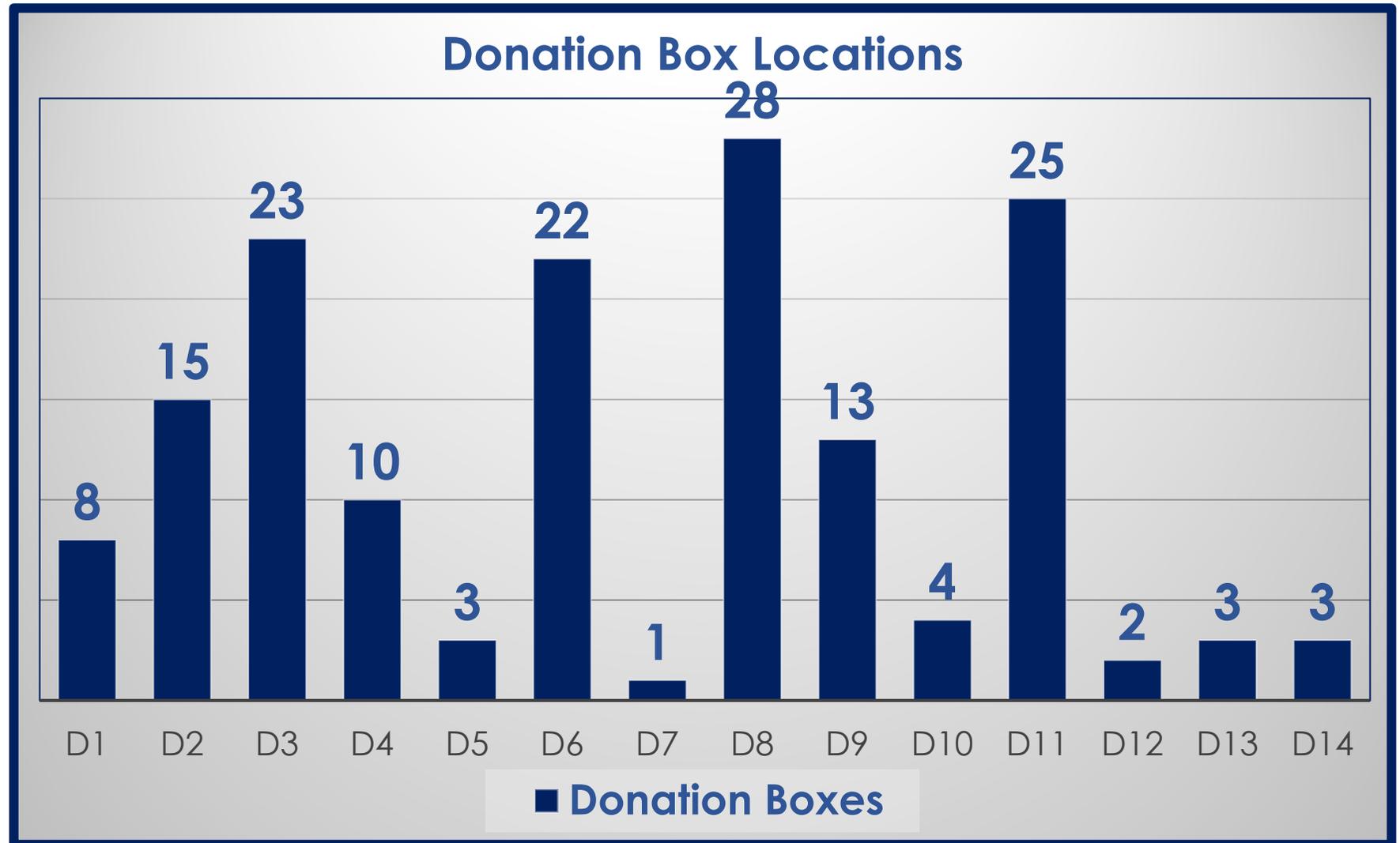
Complaints of Litter/Debris



Donation Boxes (DB) Located



Council District	# of DB
1	8
2	15
3	23
4	10
5	3
6	22
7	1
8	28
9	13
10	4
11	25
12	2
13	3
14	3
Total	160



* As of July 28, 2022



Neighboring City Comparison



Questions	Houston	San Antonio	Arlington	Frisco	Sacramento	Dallas
Who Oversees Donation Box/Bin Regulation in your City?	Administration & Regulatory Affairs (Permitting) Public Works (Enforcement)	Department of housing and neighborhood services	Code Compliance	Development Services	Code Enforcement	Code Compliance
What are requirements for registration?	Application, Permit, Decal, written authorization, service plan and Deed Restriction and Law Compliance Affidavit.	Application, Permit, Decal & written authorization	Application, written authorization, site plan with gps coordinates	Application, Site plan with service plan required with notarized owner authorization	Permit application, owner authorization & drawing of location	No registration requirement
Is there a dedicated ordinance that addresses these boxes/bins?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Is there a limit on the amount of bins allowed on a property or size limitations?	1 per property, Max 125 cubic feet in volume or not have a footprint that exceeds 50 square feet	4 total, Max 4 cubic yards each	1- Max size 120 cubic feet	1 per lot. Size (12) feet in width, (12) feet in depth & (7) feet in height.	1, Size- no more than eighty-two (82) inches high, fifty-six (56) inches wide and forty-nine (49) inches deep.	No
What fees are charged?	Permit fee \$ \$220.72/yr	Permit/Decal fee \$48/yr	Permit \$200/yr	Free	\$200/yr	None
What is the inspection process and how often are these boxes/bins inspected?	As needed	As needed	As needed	As needed	As needed	Proactive & complaint based for setback, graffiti and litter violations as needed
What are your concerns and challenges with regulating donation boxes?	Clutter, left on properties without owner consent	Failure to upkeep, donations scattered around box	Failure to upkeep, donations scattered around box	Visual clutter & graffiti	Failure to upkeep, donations scattered around box	Placement in the visibility triangle and not maintained by operator, donations placed outside on ground
What actions are taken for nonregistered donation boxes?	Fine/Impoundment	Impoundment	Impoundment	Fine	Fine	No registration requirement
If applicable, if a donation box is removed by the City what is required for return, include storage fees?	Reimbursement for removal/abatement - No set fee	Permit needed, \$200 impoundment fee plus \$20 daily storage fee	\$200 impoundment fee & \$20 daily storage fee	N/A	N/A	N/A

Proposed Ordinance Recommendations



Establish an application process for donation box operators to include a fee to be determined, site plan, and property owner authorization requirement(s)	Allow no more than two Donation Boxes per 400 feet from any other unmanned donation box
Require an annual renewal per donation box	Establish size requirement and regulate placement on concrete or asphalt
Require donation box label & registration decal to include contact information of responsible operator and for profit/nonprofit contact (examples next slide)	Prohibit Donation Boxes in property setbacks, visibility triangle, required parking areas, driveway, sidewalks, easements, fire lanes, floodplains, and streets
Require regular weekly pick up services for donated items or as needed	Prohibit Donation Boxes in areas zoned as Residential uses



Proposed Ordinance Recommendations



Applications key considerations

- Name, mailing address, email, and phone number of both property owner and DB operator
- Approval letter from property owner
- Physical location of DB
- Dates DB will be serviced
- Emergency contact phone number



City of Houston
Regulatory Affairs Division- Transportation Section
1002 Washington Ave.
Houston, Texas 77002
(832) 394-8803 Fax (832) 395-9632



DONATION BOX PERMIT APPLICATION AND INDEMNIFICATION OF THE CITY

Donation Box Applicant Information

Name of Applicant: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Physical Address (if different): _____
Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Donation Box Operator Information (if different from applicant)

Name of Operator: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Physical Address (if different): _____
Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Donation Box Landowner Information (if different from applicant)

(If multiple locations, provide landowner information on page following the next page)

Name of Landowner: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Physical Address (if different): _____
Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Any material change in the information provided shall require an amendment and must be reported to the director within 10 days after the change. Failure to supplement as required invalidates any permit provided under the original application. The administrator may require a permittee to reapply for a permit if information provided in the original application changes.





Next Steps

Summer 2022

- Seek committee support to proceed in drafting an ordinance for the Donation Box Registration Program.

Spring 2023

- Develop an internal process to identify as many existing DB as possible throughout the City
- Conduct fee study for DB application process
- Propose drafted ordinance

Summer 2023

- Create an application and permitting process for DB operators
- Complete marketing campaign advising property owners of registration program
- Deploy an online process to track applications and DB locations and complaints





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