

For the Month of
February 2008

Overview of February Code Enforcement Activity



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

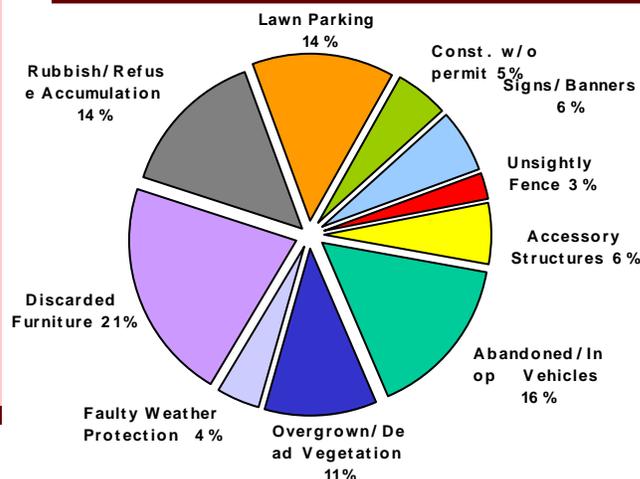
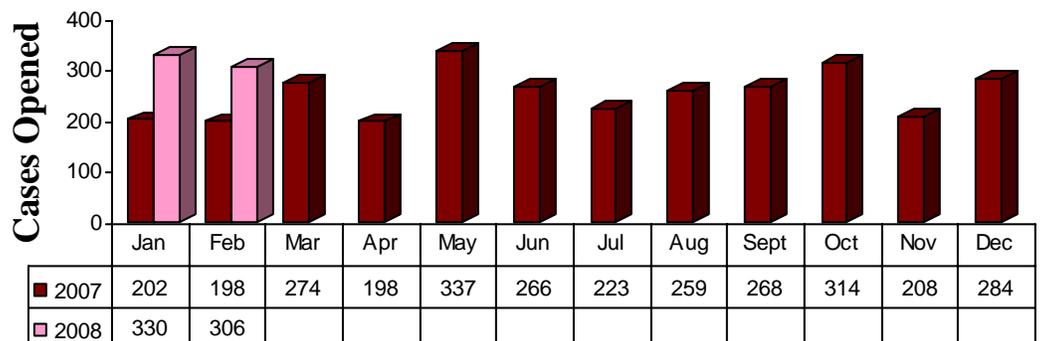
Code Enforcement Activity Report

In February 2008, the Code Enforcement/Neighborhood Preservation Division opened 306 new cases, conducted 686 inspections, and successfully resolved 314 cases.

Other achievements included:

- Received/returned over 1640 phone calls
- Initiated 249 proactive cases
- Responded to 79% of all complaints in 1 day or less
- Inspected 83% of all complaints within 48 hours
- Averaged 1.61 days from initial call to first inspection
- Observed 335 violations and abated 275 violations
- Issued 82 notices of violation and 15 civil citations
- On average, gained compliance within 31.15 days from the date of the initial complaint
- Completed 19 on-site visits with property owners or responsible parties to educate them on code enforcement violations and resources available to bring their properties into compliance.
- Continued to provide internal customer service via cooperative actions and support through participation in the Public Nuisance Task Force, and the Downtown Subcommittee on Newsracks and Handbills.

Twelve Month Code Enforcement Case History



Top Ten Violations by Type

- Discarded Furniture 21%
- Rubbish Accumulation 14%
- Abandoned/Inop Vehicles 16%
- Lawn Parking 14%
- Overgrown/Dead Vegetation 11%
- Accessory Structures 6%
- Signs/Banners 6%
- Construction w/o Permit 5%
- Faulty Weather Protection 4%
- Unsightly Fence 3%



Code Enforcement

Maintaining Your Homes & Neighborhoods

Exterior Maintenance of Residential Property

Here in the City of Huntington Beach, residential property (whether single family or multi-family) must be maintained in good condition at all times. As you know, first impressions are very important; maintaining your property in good condition will improve its curbside appeal and increase its property value.

The most important requirements of this code are the maintenance of all exterior areas of the property, and this includes landscaping. We recommend that a professional landscaper

assist you in the maintenance of your property.

Another important requirement is that property owners maintain their buildings and structures free of peeling or flaking exterior paint, broken windows and junk or debris. All siding and roofing must be in good condition. It is also very important to remove graffiti from your property. We suggest that as soon as graffiti goes up, you remove it immediately. A general rule is store a gallon or two of paint on the property that

matches the building or structure so that graffiti can be painted over quickly, and a uniform color is maintained.

In an effort to assist property owners in these maintenance efforts, the City has developed a number of low interest loans and grant programs specifically designed to finance improvements for properties in need. If you have any questions or suggestions please contact **Code Enforcement at (714) 375-5155.**

To report a Code Violation:

- ✓ Call the Code Enforcement reporting line at:
714-375-5155
or email:
jdemers@surfcity-hb.org

- ✓ State the nature of your complaint.
- ✓ Provide the address where the violation exists.
- ✓ Leave your first name and contact information. This is important, as it allows the officer to ask additional questions and provide you with updates if requested.

For the status of an existing complaint:

- ✓ Call the City's Automated Inspection Line at:
(714) 536-5241
and press "22".

Or

- ✓ Contact the Code Enforcement Officer assigned to your case.



Before **After**



Part of Your Community Commitment

LANDSCAPING – Landscaping is an important element in every community and has the potential to positively or negatively impact property values. All developed residential lots are required to provide landscaping and a continuing program of maintenance to ensure attractive and thriving vegetation. Drought-tolerant landscaping

schemes are encouraged, as well as water conservation maintenance methods. Additionally, barren areas, dead vegetation, or weeds do not constitute acceptable landscaping. Front-yard vegetation must be trimmed regularly so as not to encroach into the public right-of-way. Crumbling, cracked or otherwise damaged or weed infested

driveways must also be repaired/replaced. Vegetation that overhangs across and into neighboring properties is a civil matter and not enforceable by City staff. Offending plants/trees may be trimmed back to the property line as long as such trimming does not damage the life of the foliage.