



*INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU*

M E M O

To: Ald. Robert Bauman
From: Leslie Silletti, Legislative Research Analyst
Date: October 23, 2006
Re: **Legislation Relating to Graffiti-resistant Materials**

This memo provides information on communities which require that certain installations be constructed or coated with graffiti-resistant material. Information relating to graffiti-resistant coatings is also provided.

Following is a list of selected communities which have legislation relating to graffiti-resistant materials, and a brief summary of respective provisions:

- Daly City, CA: Security fencing or walls may be required for telecommunication facilities to prevent unauthorized access and vandalism, and those must be designed to be graffiti-resistant.
- Lawndale, CA: In approving tentative or parcel maps, conditional use permits, special use permits, variances or other similar land use entitlements, the city may impose upon the applicant conditions and requirements, including requiring the applicant to apply an anti-graffiti material.
- San Francisco, CA: In 2004, the Department of Public Transportation removed all parking signs that contained graffiti and replaced them with new signs treated with graffiti-resistant material.
- Signal-Hill, CA: Encroachment provisions for public rights-of-way are conditioned upon a number of considerations, including whether the permittee has applied an anti-graffiti material to the encroaching object or structure of a type and nature that is acceptable to the city manager.

- Breckenridge, CO: In 1998, a masonry wall within a new development plan was required to be constructed or coated with a graffiti-resistant material.
- East Truckee River, NV, Canyon Area Plan: Interpretative display signs must be constructed with graffiti-resistant material (informational signs located at various points along the Truckee River).
- Middletown, RI: Each telecommunication tower site must display an identification sign, which must be made of durable, graffiti-resistant material.
- El Paso, TX: As part of the street upgrade program, as of 2006, new signs are coated with a graffiti-resistant material.

Anti-graffiti Coatings

Because of environmental regulations, high solvent coatings, which are the most effective graffiti-resistant substances, are not allowed anymore. Water-based acrylics are now employed for anti-graffiti coatings. However, coatings are not permanent, and are worn down with each graffiti removal. Coating will last approximately 12 washings, and must then be reapplied. Coating are usually purchased by the gallon, from one-gallon to 5-gallon drums, which cost approximately \$65 and \$300, respectively. Approximately 4 coats are necessary for application, and there are a number of companies that sell graffiti-resistant coating products.

LRB06522
LCS