MEMORANDUM

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

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To: **Mayor Esteves and City Council**

From: **Tom Williams, City Manager**

By: **Greg Armendariz, Public Works Director/City Engineer**
Kathleen Phalen, Utility Engineer

Subject: **January and February Odor Complaints**

Date: **February 23, 2011**

This memorandum summarizes odor complaints received through the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) rapid notification system during the months of January and February 2011. The following exhibits are included in this summary:

Exhibit 1: October 2003 – February 23, 2011 Odor Complaint Summary

Exhibit 2: Milpitas Complaints Received by BAAQMD from 1/1/11 to 1/31/11

Exhibit 3: Odor Complaint Locations (January 1 – 31, 2011)

Exhibit 4: Odor Complaint Locations (February 1 – 23, 2011)

January

As tallied in Exhibit 1 below, BAAQMD sent out 33 rapid notification emails of odor complaints from Milpitas during the month of January, 38% identifying garbage or composting odors, 26% identifying sewage related odors, and the remainder not identifying a source. Staff contacted the odor stakeholders including Allied Waste and the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant to receive their assessments of the causes and corrective actions. Staff also spoke with BAAQMD and the San Jose Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) to request their assistance with identifying sources and corrective actions. BAAQMD's January monthly report, attached as Exhibit 2, shows that the air quality inspectors, followed up on 32 complaints of which they confirmed two sources for odor reports on January 28.

Allied told staff that on January 27, the composting facility hosted a workshop for 357 participants in the 19th annual US Composting Council Conference. As part of this workshop, Allied demonstrated composting equipment at the compost pad. Staff believes this demonstration caused some of the excessive odor for at least that remaining week. There were seven complaints on the day of the demonstration, three for the following day and two complaints on the second day following the event. Prior to and during the demonstration, Allied reported using best management practices of misting deodorizers and monitoring wind direction which was favorable for the demonstration that morning. Wind direction shifted towards Milpitas later that afternoon.

February

Weather was unseasonably warm during the first half of February and odor complaints continued at a high rate for the first three weeks. There were 31 complaints as of February 23, 42% and

13% describing odors attributable to Allied and the WPCP, respectively. The high rate of complaints halted, at least temporarily, on February 11, probably due to the arrival of a heavy rain storm with high winds. Staff contacted the stakeholders several times during the month. The Plant reported no changes to operating processes or unusual incidents during this period that would cause odors. However, the Plant is dredging the biosolids storage lagoons and transferring this wet material to the drying beds, which likely contributes a background level of odors. The Plant reports best management practices including having shift supervisors inspect the Plant and biosolids area daily. Their staff report they have not had service tanks or equipment upsets that would attribute to an increase in odors. The Plant also reports that an inspection by the BAAQMD of the biosolids perimeter did not detect any unusual odors. Allied also did not identify unusual activities in February that would result in odors. They also coordinated with the BAAQMD and performed their own investigation of the surrounding area, identifying use of fish emulsion and other fertilizers at a local golf course as one potential source of odor in Milpitas.

Staff has been in repeated contact with both BAAQMD and the San Jose LEA. BAAQMD is aware of the high level of odor complaints in January and February and is investigating their cause. BAAQMD is also coordinating with the San Jose LEA, who has jurisdiction over composting. LEA is also aware of the high level of complaints and is reviewing the composting operations at Newby Island with Allied Waste staff.

In accordance with the City's odor action plan, staff will continue monitoring the BAAQMD complaints and coordinating with the sources and regulatory agencies to ensure that all stakeholders are aware of the unacceptable odor impacts and are taking necessary action to control the sources.

Exhibit 1: October 2003 - February 23, 2011 Odor Complaint Summary

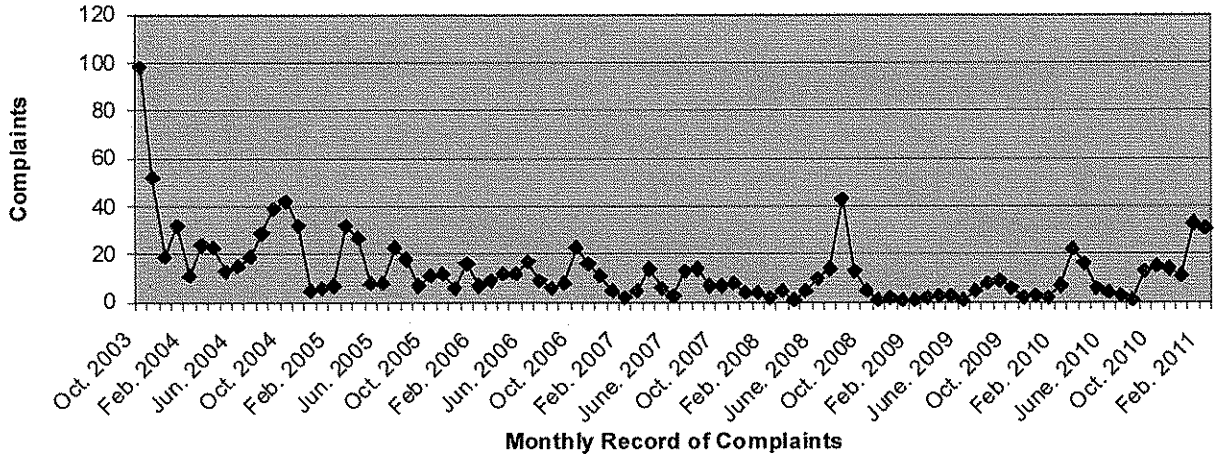


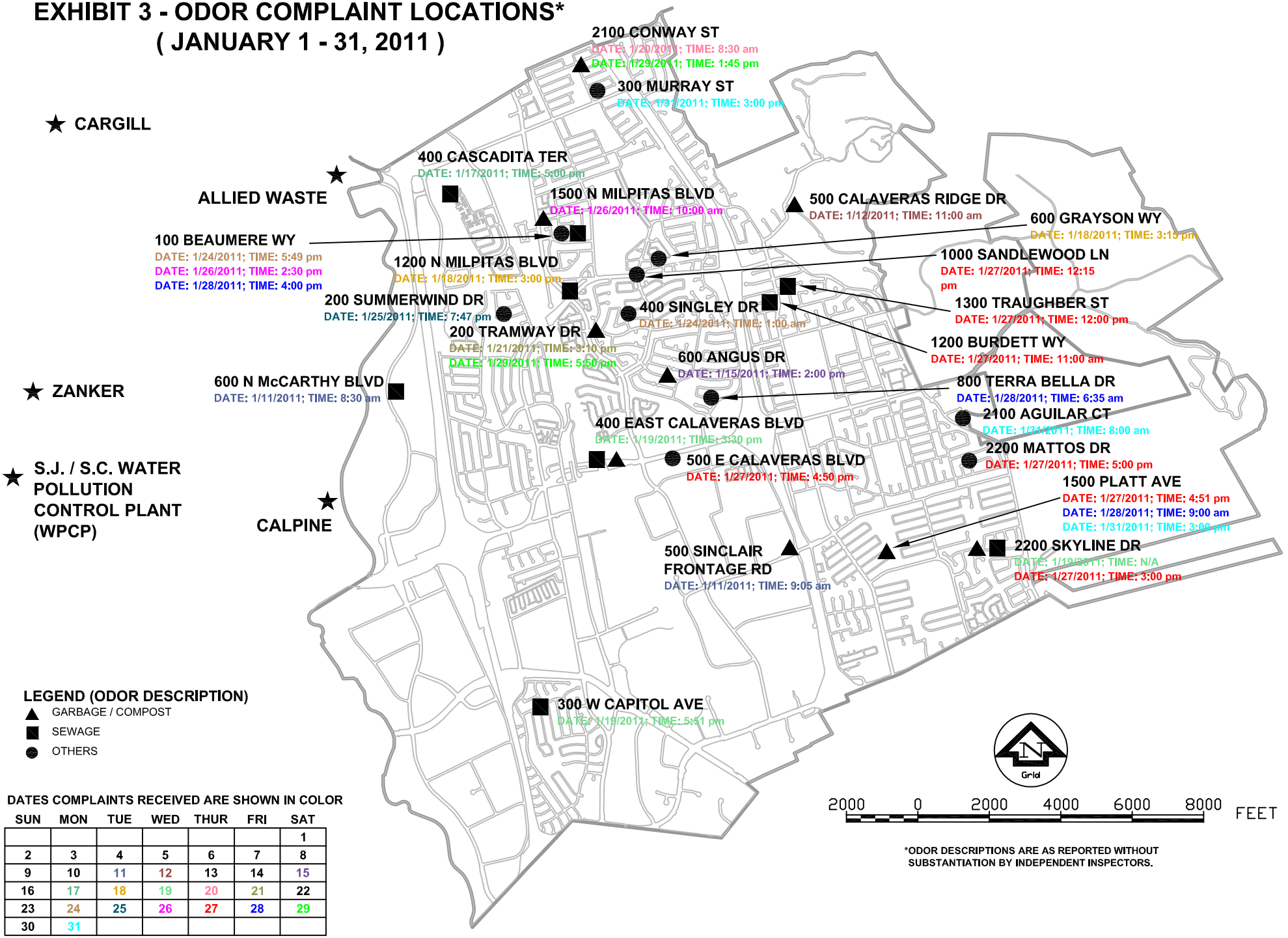
EXHIBIT 2

Milpitas Complaints

Received by BAAQMD From 01/01/20 to 01/31/2011

Complaint#	Received	Occured	Alleged Source	Description	General Location	Status	Attributed Site#	Referral	Comments
208453	1/11/11 8:44	1/11/11 8:30	NONE	raw sewage	600 N MC CARTHY BLVD, SUIT	Unconfirmed			
208454	1/11/11 9:27	1/11/11 9:05	BFI - The Recyclery	dumps	500 SINCLAIR FRONTAGE RD	Unconfirmed			
208466	1/12/11 12:02	1/12/11 11:00	NONE	garbage	800 CALAVERAS RIDGE DR	Unconfirmed			
208484	1/15/11 15:53	1/15/11 14:00	BFI - The Recyclery	garbage	600 ANGUS DR	Unconfirmed			
208490	1/17/11 17:58	1/17/11 17:00	BFI - The Recyclery	fertilizer	400 CASCADITA TERRACE	Unconfirmed			
208495	1/18/11 15:05	1/18/11 15:00	NONE	sour stinky poo	1200 N MILPITAS BLVD	Unconfirmed			work for public works
208497	1/18/11 15:30	1/18/11 15:15	BFI - The Recyclery	foul	600 GRAYSON WAY	Unconfirmed			
208513	1/19/11 17:40	1/19/11 15:30	NONE	rotten eggs/garbage	400 E CALAVERAS BLVD	Unconfirmed			
208514	1/19/11 17:42	1/19/11 0:00	NONE	sewage/fecal matter	2200 SKYLINE DR	Unconfirmed			
208516	1/19/11 17:51	1/19/11 17:51	NONE	bad animal poop	300 W CAPITOL AVE	Unconfirmed			
208518	1/20/11 8:57	1/20/11 8:30	BFI - The Recyclery	food waste	2100 CONWAY ST	Unconfirmed			
208537	1/21/11 15:19	1/21/11 15:10	BFI - The Recyclery	garbage	200 TRAMWAY DR	Unconfirmed			says you don't need to go to her house
208561	1/24/11 9:53	1/24/11 1:00	NONE	skunk	400 SINGLEY DR	Unconfirmed			
208572	1/24/11 17:50	1/24/11 17:49	BFI - The Recyclery	odor	100 BEAUMERE WAY	Unconfirmed			
208588	1/25/11 19:47	1/25/11 19:47	Newby Island Landfill	very bad	200 SUMMERWIND DR	Unconfirmed			
208602	1/26/11 11:01	1/26/11 10:00	BFI - The Recyclery	garbage	1500 NORTH MILPITAS BLV SPA	Unconfirmed			
208605	1/26/11 15:42	1/26/11 14:30	NONE	strong	100 BEAUMERE WAY	Unconfirmed			
208623	1/27/11 15:26	1/27/11 12:00	NONE	raw sewage	1300 TRAUGHER ST	Unconfirmed			
208624	1/27/11 15:43	1/27/11 12:15	NONE	awful	1000 SANDALWOOD LN	Unconfirmed			
208625	1/27/11 16:52	1/27/11 16:50	NONE	awful	500 E CALAVERAS BLV	Unconfirmed			
208626	1/27/11 17:02	1/27/11 15:00	NONE	garbage	2200 SKYLINE DR	Unconfirmed			
208627	1/27/11 17:51	1/27/11 16:51	BFI - The Recyclery	compost	1500 PLATT AVE	Unconfirmed			
208628	1/28/11 6:35	1/28/11 6:30	NONE	gas	800 TERRA BELLA DR	Confirmed			
208629	1/28/11 8:58	1/27/11 17:00	BFI - The Recyclery	sour smell	2200 MATTOS DR	Unconfirmed			
208630	1/28/11 9:18	1/28/11 9:00	NONE	dump	1500 BLATT AVE	Confirmed			
208634	1/28/11 17:40	1/28/11 16:00	BFI - The Recyclery	feces	100 BEAUMERE WAY	Unconfirmed			
208635	1/28/11 19:18	1/27/11 11:00	Genrad Corp, STP Div	sewage	1200 BURDETT WAY	Unconfirmed			
208637	1/29/11 13:58	1/29/11 13:45	BFI - The Recyclery	compost	2100 CONWAY ST	Unconfirmed			
208638	1/29/11 17:52	1/29/11 17:50	NONE		200 TRAMWAY DR	Unconfirmed			
208643	1/31/11 12:05	1/31/11 11:00	BFI - The Recyclery	garbage	1500 PLATT AVE	Unconfirmed			
208647	1/31/11 15:32	1/31/11 8:00	NONE	rotting	2100 AGUILAR CT	Unconfirmed			
208648	1/31/11 15:52	1/31/11 15:00	NONE	rotten	300 MURRAY	Unconfirmed			
Total:	32								

EXHIBIT 3 - ODOR COMPLAINT LOCATIONS*
(JANUARY 1 - 31, 2011)



LEGEND (ODOR DESCRIPTION)

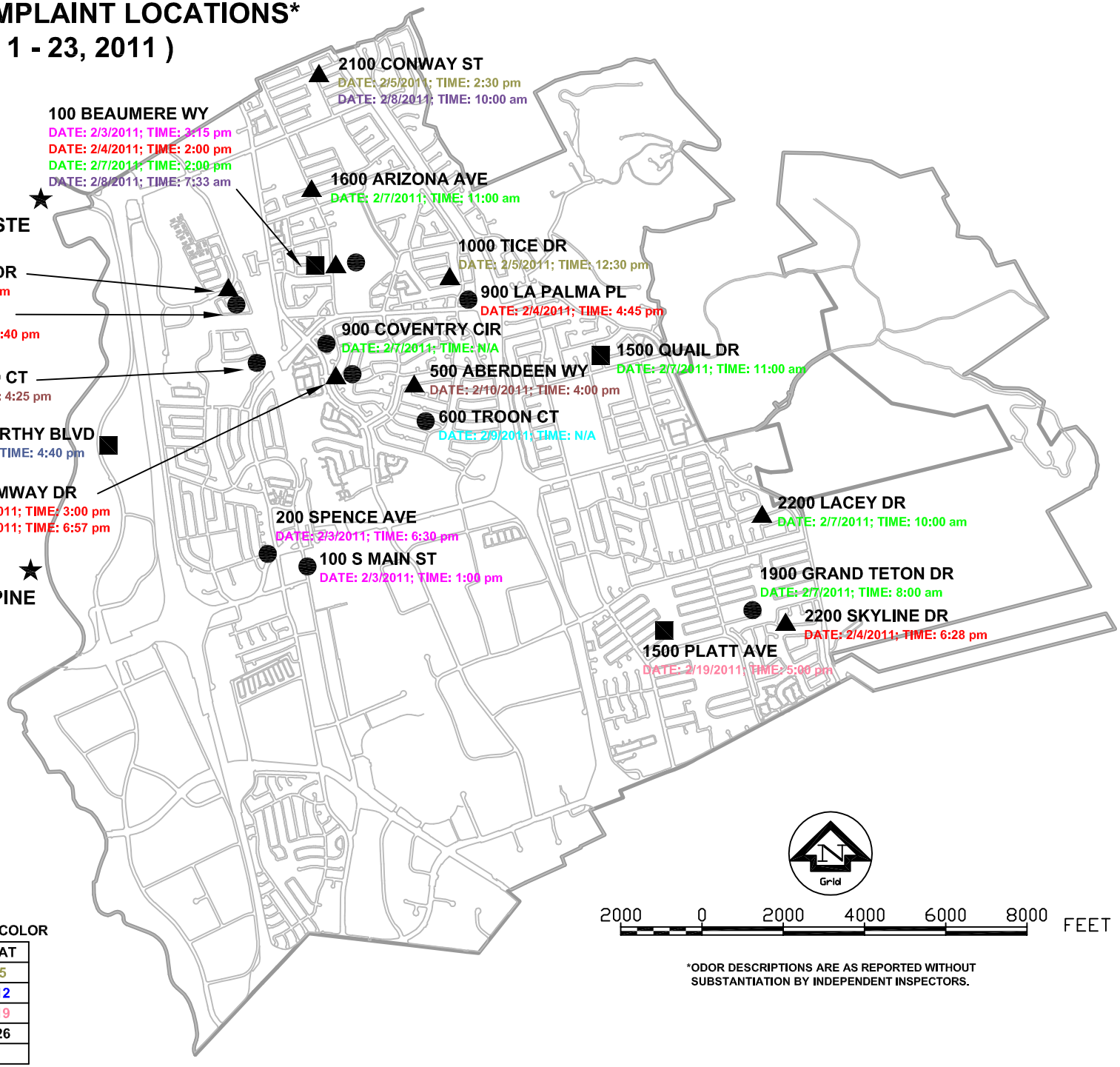
- ▲ GARBAGE / COMPOST
- ■ SEWAGE
- ● OTHERS

DATES COMPLAINTS RECEIVED ARE SHOWN IN COLOR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

*ODOR DESCRIPTIONS ARE AS REPORTED WITHOUT SUBSTANTIATION BY INDEPENDENT INSPECTORS.

EXHIBIT 4 - ODOR COMPLAINT LOCATIONS*
(FEBRUARY 1 - 23, 2011)



OTHER ODOR COMPLAINTS (LOCATIONS UNAVAILABLE)

- DATE: 2/4/2011; TIME: 6:27 pm
- DATE: 2/4/2011; TIME: 8:20 pm
- DATE: 2/7/2011; TIME: 10:20 am
- DATE: 2/10/2011; TIME: 4:00 pm
- DATE: 2/12/2011; TIME: 5:00 pm
- DATE: 2/12/2011; TIME: 7:45 pm

LEGEND (ODOR DESCRIPTION)

- ▲ GARBAGE / COMPOST
- ■ SEWAGE
- ● OTHERS

DATES COMPLAINTS RECEIVED ARE SHOWN IN COLOR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

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