

An aerial photograph of a suburban neighborhood, showing a grid of streets, houses with varying roof colors, and green lawns. The image is slightly dark, creating a background for the text.

Community Development Department

April 3, 2024

Community Development Divisions

- Building and Permitting (Enterprise Fund): Reviews plans, issues building permits & inspections buildings. Funded by permits and other fees.
- Housing Division: Manages the City's federal and state housing grants and programs. Funded by state and federal grants and the general fund.
- Planning: Reviews development project and plans for consistency with City regulations. Updates/maintains City's planning, housing, and development documents. General fund.
- Code Compliance: Enforces the City's municipal code (local laws). General fund.



Keeping Hanford Safe and Clean

- The City's Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement Divisions are tasked with keeping the City safe and clean
- Planning focuses on orderly/sustainable growth
- Building ensures structures are built per the California Building Code
- Code Compliances enforces local laws to keep properties safe and clean



Challenges

Department Challenges

- Residents want quick responses, but limitations exist due to available resources, laws, and required timelines
- Demands for additional services and programs
- “Unfunded mandates” result in new programs, reporting, plans, etc. that the City must implement

Code Compliance Challenges

- Code Compliance has seen an uptick in cases related to homelessness, unsafe structure abatement, and dumping
- Code Compliance has received several requests to provide weekend/night enforcement but staffing levels make that difficult
- Calls and requests for code enforcement officers exceed staffing time available, resulting in a mostly “reactive” and not “proactive” approach
- Notices of Violation by year:
 - 2022 – 846
 - 2023 – 2,160
 - 2024 – 494

Staffing (Code Compliance)

- Code Compliance Supervisor
- Code Compliance Officer (2)
- Community Enhancement Officer





Compliance Example

Online Form Submittal: Report a Code Violation (not for crimes, emergencies)



noreply@civicplus.com

Reply Reply All Forward

Tue 4/2/2024 1:09 PM

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Report a Code Violation (not for crimes, emergencies)

Name	<input type="text"/>
Phone	559 <input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/> @att.net
Violation Type	Basketball court in sidewalk it's been there for at least 8 wks I almost tripped on it when I go for walks.
Address of Violation	76 <input type="text"/>
City	Hanford
State	CA
Zip Code	93230
Upload a Photo of the Violation	<i>Field not completed.</i>

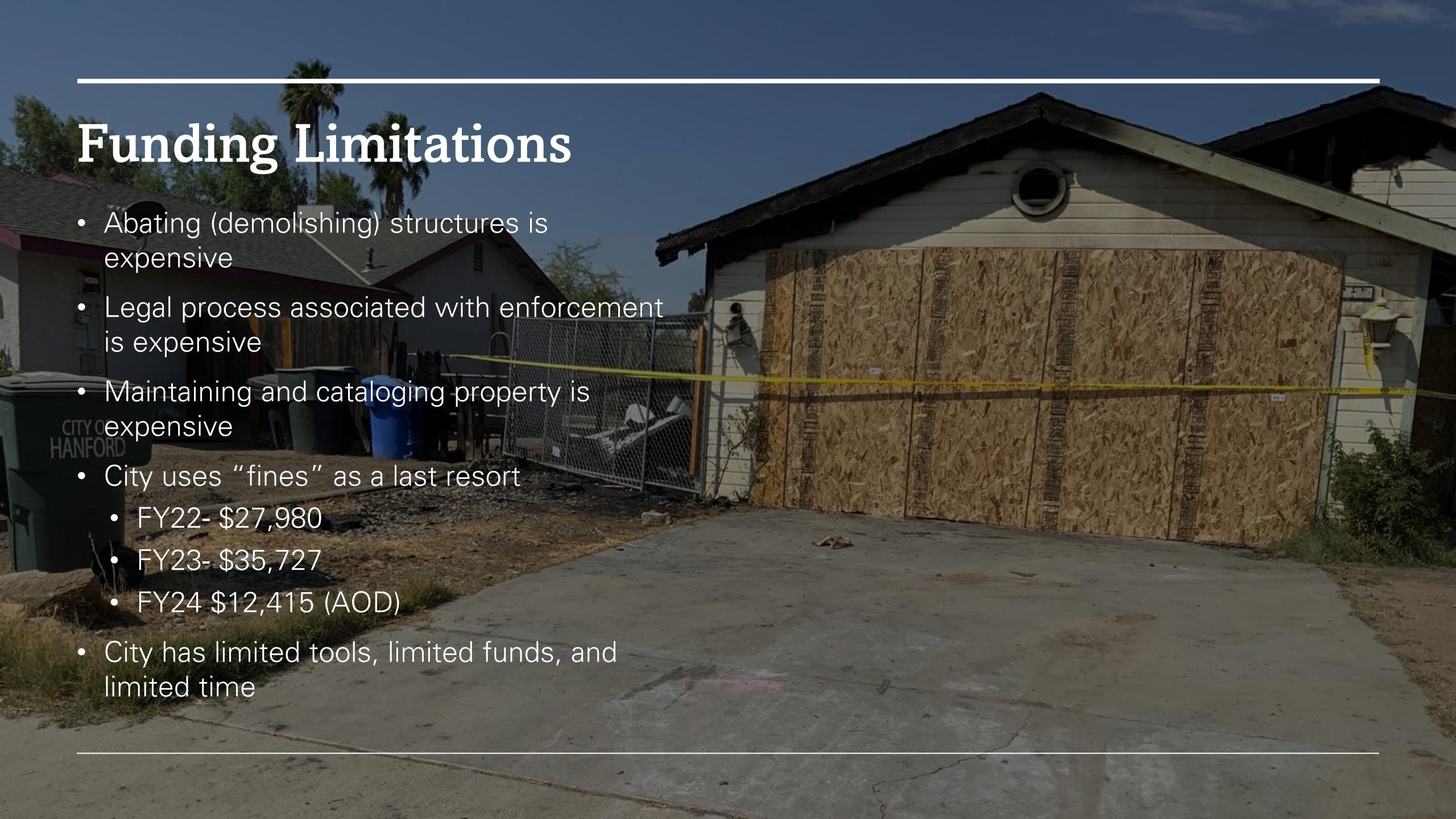
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Addressing the Issues Associated with Encampments

- As mentioned during the Police presentation homelessness is not a crime, so addressing issues resulting from encampments are often done through the Code Compliance process
 - Dumping, Right-of-Way violations, unsafe structures, etc.
 - Removing, cataloging, and storing items is expensive
 - Cost recovery is minimal/nonexistent

Funding Limitations

- Abating (demolishing) structures is expensive
- Legal process associated with enforcement is expensive
- Maintaining and cataloging property is expensive
- City uses “fines” as a last resort
 - FY22- \$27,980
 - FY23- \$35,727
 - FY24 \$12,415 (AOD)
- City has limited tools, limited funds, and limited time



Questions?
