

# **Roseville Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission Meeting Agenda**

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Tuesday, December 20, 2011, at 6:30 p.m.  
City Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive  
Roseville, Minnesota 55113

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|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6:30 p.m. | <b>1. Introductions/Roll Call</b>                            |
| 6:35 p.m. | <b>2. Public Comments</b>                                    |
| 6:40 p.m. | <b>3. Approval of November 22, 2011 Meeting Minutes</b>      |
| 6:45 p.m. | <b>4. Communication Items</b>                                |
| 7:00 p.m. | <b>5. Organized Collection Continued Discussion</b>          |
| 8:00 p.m. | <b>6. Possible Items for Next Meeting – January 24, 2012</b> |
| 8:05 p.m. | <b>7. Adjourn</b>                                            |

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**Roseville Public Works, Environment and  
Transportation Commission**

**Agenda Item**

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**Date:** December 20, 2011

**Item No:** 3

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**Item Description:** Approval of the Public Works Commission Minutes November 22, 2011

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Attached are the minutes from the November 22, 2011, meeting.

**Recommended Action:**

Motion approving the minutes of November 22, 2011, subject to any necessary corrections or revision.

**Move:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Second:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ayes:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nays:** \_\_\_\_\_

# **Roseville Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes**

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Tuesday, November 22, 2011, at 6:30 p.m.  
City Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive  
Roseville, Minnesota 55113

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**1. Introduction / Call Roll**

Chair Jim DeBenedet called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m.

**Members Present:** Chair Jim DeBenedet; and Members Jan Vanderwall;  
Dwayne Stenlund; Joan Felice; and Steve Gjerdingen

**Staff Present:** Public Works Director Duane Schwartz; Recycling  
Coordinator Tim Pratt

**Others Present:** Ramsey County representative Zack Hansen; several  
Roseville residents

**2. Public Comments**

No one appeared to speak at this time.

**3. Approval of October 25, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

Member Stenlund moved, Member Felice seconded, approval of the October 25,  
2011 meeting as presented.

**Ayes: 5**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion carried.**

**4. Communication Items**

Public Works Director Duane Schwartz noted that updates on various  
construction projects were included in tonight's meeting packet or available on-  
line at the City's website at [www.cityofroseville.com/projects](http://www.cityofroseville.com/projects), and as detailed in  
the staff report dated November 22, 2011.

Mr. Schwartz distributed several bench handouts entitled, "SUMMARY, Draft  
Contract between the City of Maplewood and Allied Waste Services for City-  
Wide Residential Trash Collection dated November 22, 2011;" and a copy  
postcard from "Sustainable Maplewood" to residential customers providing some

facts and announcing its November 28, 2011 meeting of the Maplewood City Council; both ***attached hereto and made a part hereof.***

Specific discussion included punch list items remaining and repairs to a damaged signal pole along the Rice Street corridor and Highway 36 bridge Phase I construction area; status of Phase II of the Rice Street corridor; status of the proposed County Road B project from Snelling Avenue to Fairview Avenue and potential delays due to right-of-way issues; and proposed park and ride facility along Rice Street and Highway 36 and impacts to the facility at Rosedale once it becomes operable.

Member Vanderwall suggested available members of the PWET Commission attend the upcoming 2012 Budget and Levy Public Hearing scheduled for the December 5, 2011 City Council meeting, specifically related to proposed utility fee adjustments to address CIP infrastructure needs in the next twenty (20) years. At the request of Member Stenlund, Mr. Schwartz advised that he would follow-up to ensure stabilization of the Fairview Avenue pathway area for winter along the residential, park and farm field locations.

**5. Ramsey County Solid Waste Policy**

Mr. Schwartz introduced Zack Hansen, Environmental Health Director for Saint Paul – Ramsey County Department of Public Health located in Maplewood, MN, whose department was responsible for revisions to the Ramsey County Solid Waste Management Plan.

Mr. Hansen referred members and the public to a link to the full plan, as detailed in the staff report dated November 22, 2011; as well as a copy available through the City's Recycling Coordinator Tim Pratt.

Mr. Hansen advised that his attendance at tonight's meeting was for the purpose of seeking comment from the City of Roseville on the required update of the Ramsey County Solid Waste Management Master Plan. Mr. Hansen noted that the Plan update was required by law and triggered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) adoption in March of 2011, of Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Policy Plan for 2012 through 2030, a revision of the previous regional policy plan. Mr. Hansen noted that the Plan provides guidance to county, municipalities, industry and solid waste generators; and provides a level of stability to a dynamic system, such as curbside recycling, and risk management for health, safety, environmental and economic stability issues.

Mr. Hansen reviewed the Plan's key themes, policies, goals and strategies for waste management in Ramsey County over the next twenty (20) years. Mr. Hansen noted that, with numerous types of waste and multiple stakeholders and their various roles, public engagement was proposed through a "Planning Beyond the Garbage Can" educational process. Mr. Hansen noted the willingness and support for recycling endeavors throughout the region providing significant

potential to increase recycling and eliminating barriers, while using ideas gleaned from partnering with communities within the County, specifically on the business side.

Mr. Hansen highlighted some of the Plan's initiatives, including product stewardship; organic waste management; a greater emphasis on commercial recycling; greater expectations for municipalities such as in service to multi-family unit recycling efforts; communication, consultation, and technical assistance; pushing demolition/construction waste up the hierarchy; and hauler licensing expanded to non-MSW and recycling collectors.

Discussion among members and Mr. Hansen included the neutrality of the draft Plan related to organized versus private refuse collection, with Mr. Hansen advising that this was intentional on the County's part; however, he offered their technical engineering expertise and the County's role to provide research or background information to allow cities to make decisions based on the best information available and as requested, all with the overall goals of helping cities manage their risk and negotiate good recycling contracts.

Additional discussion included progress in the public and private sectors, once MPCA rules and design standards are completed for composting organics while protecting groundwater; politics involved in policy discussions; new companies and new technologies moving in the solid waste field; costs and route density in considering collection of organic materials; and potential for location of transit stations in certain areas in the metropolitan area and joint efforts with other counties.

Mr. Pratt noted that one recommendation of Ramsey County was for cities initiating residential collection of organics by 2016, and impacts to the City's receipt of SCORE grant funds based on the City's expansion of recycling programs (e.g. multi-family property collection of recyclables); and a pilot program currently underway in the City of St. Paul by Eureka Recycling.

Further discussion included what would and how to compel current waste haulers to truthfully declare what and how much they were hauling and the actual destination of the material, whether for processing or ending up at a landfill; and the necessity to provide additional education for residents in Ramsey County for the Plan, as well as specific to municipalities within the County.

Mr. Hansen thanked members for that comment, and suggested that the Plan could include a reporting requirement by ordinance at the County level to gather more information on recycling through cooperation among the haulers and licensing of recycling firms. Mr. Hansen admitted that the numbers currently being provided for residential collections is accurate, but not from the commercial side.

Mr. Schwartz advised that cities with organized collection contracts typically include such reporting requirements; however, he noted that it was easier to get the information with organized collection haulers versus private haulers.

Mr. Hansen opined that this depended on the language of the contract, since state law required public entities to ensure that those contracts were managed in accordance with the Ramsey County Solid Waste Policy and preferences that materials are hauled to the waste-to-energy recovery center rather than land filled. Mr. Hansen further opined that haulers under organized contract provisions should be required to take material to Newport, while not as easy to ensure or extend to residential waste in an open area when it was subject to available market conditions for specific materials.

In conclusion, Mr. Hansen addressed the extensive communication/education program for Ramsey County residents (e.g. Green Guide); periodic mailings to residents; availability of household hazardous waste and need for continual reminders of those facilities; targeting of businesses; regional and county online sources and other advertising options. Mr. Hansen advised that the initial expansion of organic collections would first focus on high volume commercial waste generators, such as large institutional cafeteria, schools, and hospitals before moving down to smaller groups and residential users.

Additional discussion the competitive nature of the landfill business versus the Newport facility's neutrality; MPCA offers to measure volumes in landfill; how to regulate commercial waste haulers as well as picking up from commercial sites and the destination of those materials; Supreme Court ruling that handling garbage was subject to an ICC clause in constitutional requirements; woody waste sites and impacts of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) contaminated brush; and the majority of but greatest need for recycling coming from the commercial sector.

Member Gjerdingen suggested that the Policy (page 3) recommend government events be "zero waste" events; with Mr. Hansen expressing appreciation for this idea. Member Gjerdingen also encouraged Ramsey County to make recycling receptacles easier to access or more visible in parks and other areas.

#### **Recess**

Chair DeBenedet recessed the meeting at approximately 7:28 p.m. and reconvened at approximately 7:35 p.m.

#### **6. Neighborhood Traffic Management Policy ~~Final~~ Review**

Mr. Schwartz presented the latest draft of the neighborhood Traffic Management Program (TMP), based on previous Commission feedback since the October meeting.

Member Gjerdingen opined that the title was misleading, since it implied that the TMP implied that the policy was a comprehensive strategy throughout the City, but he was it as more of a targeted traffic management policy, and preferred the

term “traffic calming” that was less inclusive. Also, if attempting to complete this draft and forward it to the City Council by year-end to serve as a cure-all for all traffic issues within the community, Member Gjerdingen further opined that he didn’t like the precedent that the TMP would heal all complaints.

Chair DeBenedet advised that it was his intent that the TMP continue under discussion for several more meetings before it was ready for recommendation to the City Council; choosing not to rush it. Chair DeBenedet suggested that tonight’s discussion focus on the substance of the program.

#### Page 28, Tools

Member Gjerdingen expressed confusion about what listed costs for sidewalk maintenance entailed.

Chair DeBenedet noted discussions at the October meeting about those costs, and the consensus that it was important for residents to understand when asking for certain implementations, that they be aware of the initial cost as well as the cost for ongoing maintenance.

Member Gjerdingen questioned if the costs were annual or for the lifetime.

Member Stenlund and Mr. Schwarz advised that the correct cost should be \$1.14 per foot on an annual basis; with Member Gjerdingen suggesting that this be clarified by indicating “PER YEAR” after that cost.

At Member Gjerdingen’s concern with the amount of time spent on this TMP versus that of the organized collection issue; Member Vanderwall clarified that organized collection was an ongoing concern; while this document would be used when a neighborhood issue came forward, and a potential once-in-a-lifetime solution was sought to remedy it, creating a much lower incidence of this TMP intersecting with residents. Member Vanderwall opined that once completed, the TMP should not require additional Commissioner time except for minor revisions and adjustments as it was put into practice.

Member Stenlund concurred, noting that this TMP was related to neighborhood traffic affecting livability in those neighborhoods, based on the influence of vehicles in the neighborhoods and safety concerns and control of streets in those neighborhoods. Member Stenlund suggested that, while the TMP was a car-focused policy and was being drafted to specifically address that and related problems; future discussions could be pursued on how to make streets more livable in the future.

Chair DeBenedet note that, no matter how much care the Commission took in drafting the TMP or how many edits, the first few times it was used would find things needing further refinement or other considerations. However, Chair DeBenedet opined that the TMP would provide guidance and was a good start.

Chair DeBenedet noted the need for the Commission to be respectful of staff time in requesting minor edits.

Ms. Schwartz noted the four (4) items listed in the staff report dated November 22, 2011, that staff was seeking additional focus from and direction of the PWET Commission tonight.

Prior to additional discussion, Chair DeBenedet opened the meeting for public comment specific to the TMP.

**Public Comment**

**Megan Gardner, 1321 County Road C-2**

Ms. Gardner stated that the “reckless vote of the Roseville City Council last month to open up County Road C-2” had been infuriating for her and her family; and while having a TMP for the City made perfect sense, sadly it was too late for her neighborhood. Ms. Gardner advised that she had several specific questions for the Commission.

Ms. Gardner noted that tonight’s PWET Commission agenda appeared to indicate that the TMP was slated for finalization; and questioned if this was their plan.

Chair DeBenedet responded that it would be a goal of the Commission to do so if possible.

Ms. Gardner questioned why the PWET Commission’s August 2011 meeting had been cancelled.

Chair DeBenedet responded that it had been cancelled due to the lack of a quorum.

Ms. Gardner questioned if City Council members had available a tentative TMP when they voted on County Road C-2 five (5) weeks ago.

Chair DeBenedet responded negatively, noting that the PWET Commission was still in the process of drafting the document for recommendation to the City Council; and that it was still in process with revisions and discussion among the PWET Commission and City staff.

Ms. Gardner questioned if, when the TMP was put on the City’s website if it was an earlier draft of the draft currently being discussed.

Member Vanderwall advised that various drafts of the TMP would have been part of PWET Commission agenda packet materials provided online; however, he clarified that this didn’t mean individual City Council members had read those agenda materials. Member Vanderwall noted that the various agenda materials included model TMP’s from other communities for PWET Commission review, upon which the Roseville-specific TMP was modeled.

Mr. Schwartz concurred, noting that the TMP was still in draft form and a work-in-progress.

Chair DeBenedet estimated that the first draft was provided by staff to Commissioners at their July 2011 meeting.

Member Vanderwall noted the numerous comments and revisions since that original draft was provided by staff.

Chair DeBenedet opined that he was not aware that there was anything included in any of the TMP drafts that would have provided guidance to the City Council for the County Road C-2 discussion, whether supporting keeping it open or closing it. Chair DeBenedet reviewed the intent of the proposed TMP as a tool for neighbors who feel there was a traffic problem on their specific street; allowing them to come as a group to City Hall for discussions and reviewing potential options with staff. Chair DeBenedet reviewed the process for the TMP, once the PWET Commission provided it and a recommendation to the City Council; and subsequent City Council review and revisions prior to its potential adoption as a City policy. Chair DeBenedet noted that if it became a policy, it would still need funding for studies or temporary measures; and reiterated that the TMP still had a long way to go before the City Council would make a decision to adopt it and provide funding for it as a policy.

Ms. Gardner opined that, there was no doubt in her mind that it would be a mathematical impossibility for the City Council to open County Road C-2 if the existing draft of the TMP was in place at the time of their decision; and expressed her curiosity as to why the City Council would take such a vote before a policy had been finalized.

Member Vanderwall suggested that the PWET Commission could not comment on that question, since it would only be conjecture on their part and serve to second guess the City Council; and suggested that Ms. Gardner directly question those decision-makers.

Member Gjerdingen noted that there was no tool in place to address opening a street, and while there were neighborhood concerns for residents on Josephine Road as well as adjacent streets and area traffic concerns, he was unsure if they could have been addressed under this proposed TMP policy other than to attempt traffic calming options off Josephine Road.

Ms. Gardner questioned one neighborhood making a request that impacted other neighborhoods; and how a mathematical percentage would be addressed.

Member Gjerdingen opined that such a tool was not measured anywhere, as became obvious throughout this TMP process; and that only tools were included for closure, but not opening up streets.

Member Vanderwall opined that it did address it through identifying affected neighborhoods, immediate neighborhoods, and other affected neighborhoods.

Mr. Schwartz concurred with Member Gjerdingen that at this time, there was nothing in the TMP toolbox addressing making connections to existing streets, street closures, or not making those connections.

Member Vanderwall expressed surprise if the toolbox would be restrictive, opining that a study would allow citizens to consider all possibilities; with professional engineers not limited to just the tools in the toolbox; and suggested the PWET Commission may need to consider additional discussion to ensure the TMP language doesn't limit studies, but allow them to be a work-in-progress.

Member Stenlund opined that options and tools would evolve as science continued to improve.

Chair DeBenedet suggested that Ms. Gardner direct this specific question to the City Council, even though he was under the impression that the City Council had explained their rationale when making their decision about County Road C-2.

Ms. Gardner asked if the County Road C-2 issue was the motivating factor in initiating the TMP policy, since Section 4.0 seemed to be written specifically and in direct response to how the County Road C-2 issue unfolded.

Chair DeBenedet advised that he was unaware of any correlation.

Mr. Schwartz advised that creation of a TMP had been on staff's list of projects for a number of years; and it had been moved to the forefront when the Dale Street Reconstruction Project moved forward, along with a request for street closure in the Wheeler neighborhood based on redevelopment of the Presbyterian Homes facilities on Lake Johanna. Mr. Schwartz advised that staff received frequent requests from residents for speed bumps or other traffic calming measures; however, there was no mechanism in place for staff to consistently and fairly evaluate those various requests for approval or denial, causing the issue to build for a number of years, and prompted by the Dale Street and Wheeler concerns. Mr. Schwarz assured Ms. Gardner that development of the proposed TMP and events related to County Road C-2 were simply a coincidence.

Member Stenlund concurred with Mr. Schwartz summary of what instigated development of the TMP; noting related discussions for improving storm water quality through installation of trees for "Complete Streets;" that included their use

as traffic calming measures and efforts to make neighborhoods friendlier and address amenities to ensure livable community results.

Mr. Schwartz noted that the TMP was initially brought forward by the City Council to staff in January or February of 2011, as they asked staff to put it on the PWET Commission's annual work plan, requesting them to consider it a priority for providing a recommendation to the City Council. Mr. Schwartz suggested a review of both City Council and PWET Commission meeting minutes from the last several years for the sequence of discussions and charges to the PWET Commission by the City Council.

Ms. Gardner questioned why the word "resident" was changed to "citizen" in the TMP; and questioned if that meant that people living outside of Roseville would be allowed input on neighborhood streets within the community.

Member Gjerdingen explained that this was his recommended change, providing his rationale that business owners who were not Roseville residents could still have input, but used or were affected by use of Roseville streets.

Ms. Gardner questioned if that meant that a resident from Minnetonka could make a request as a "citizen of somewhere."

Member Vanderwall responded affirmatively, provided that the Minnetonka resident was a business owner or was developing or redeveloping a business in Roseville. Member Vanderwall advised that he had initially supported retaining the "resident" language; however, Member Gjerdingen had made a valid point and by consensus PWET Commissioners had revised language to "citizen" to allow a business owner standing.

Ms. Gardner, playing devil's advocate, questioned the results if someone made a request but was not a Roseville resident.

Member Stenlund advised that, unless a business owner, that someone would have no standing. Member Stenlund noted the need for Ms. Gardner to recognize that there was also associated cost participation for neighborhoods or anyone to bring forward a request, negating many requests unless those requesting a tool were willing to fund a specific available option.

Member Vanderwall concurred, noting that part of the process for each request was submission of a petition.

Ms. Gardner questioned, since the County Road C-2 vote was "rushed through" on October 17, 2011, and this policy "conveniently didn't apply," at what point would the TMP begin to apply to County Road C-2.

Mr. Schwartz advised that, like most policies, the TMP would become effective upon its adoption – and funding – by the City Council; and would be based on a case-by-case consideration of requests and their nature, whether for temporary traffic measures, requiring a traffic study, or other review.

Ms. Gardner questions the process of the TMP, once finalized by the PWET Commission, at the City Council level.

Mr. Schwartz advised that, once approved by the PWET Commission for recommendation to the City Council, staff would introduce it to the City Council, anticipating that this would be sometime in early 2012; and at that point, depending on the amount of City Council-level discussion and potential revisions, the process would be further impacted by whether those potential revisions or other issues brought up during discussion by the City Council could be sufficiently addressed at a staff level, or if the City Council would send it back to the PWET Commission for additional work and resubmission.

Member Vanderwall noted that the TMP is probably not on the City Council's highest priority list.

Mr. Schwartz concurred, noting the many unknowns at this time; and opining that the City Council's most immediate issue would probably be, if found to be an acceptable policy, the TMP could be funded with existing budget resources or if other funding sources would need to be found for implementation of any of the TMP's tools.

**Roger Toogood, 601 Terrace Court**

Mr. Toogood had provided his written comments via e-mail dated November 3, 2011; and disseminated by staff as a bench handout at the meeting, ***attached hereto and made a part hereof***. Mr. Toogood verbally expounded on those written comments.

In response to Mr. Toogood's perspective on inconsistent speed limits in some areas, Member Vanderwall stated that the PWET Commission's focus and discipline had been to develop the TMP aimed at neighborhood streets, not arterial streets.

Mr. Schwartz concurred, noting that potentially, there may be speed limit inconsistencies; however, he noted that they would require a more comprehensive review. Mr. Schwartz advised that speed consistencies had never been looked at comprehensively throughout the City; since many of them were County roads. In response to Mr. Toogood's question if the City could influence the County and request a speed study, Mr. Schwartz cautioned that the state commissioner would reset speed limits if indicated following a speed limit study, often resulting in those speed limits being increased based on an average, and often the opposite of

what most neighborhoods were initially seeking. At the request of Mr. Toogood, Mr. Schwartz confirmed that standard speed limits, if not posted on roadways, was 30 MPH.

Mr. Schwartz expressed appreciation for Mr. Toogood's observations related to education opportunities and strategies in area schools to address and become aware of how traffic flow could be controlled, managed or safer in Roseville.

Member Vanderwall concurred with the educational piece, noting similar educational efforts undertaken as part of school bus safety issues. Member Vanderwall noted the multiple pedestrian safety issues in Roseville and the need to address them, specifically with the current lack of an adequate pathway system for students accessing community schools.

Mr. Toogood expressed appreciation to Mr. Schwartz for clarifying his misperceptions, as he had brought up some connections and impacts that he had yet to consider.

Chair DeBenedet noted that, if the TMP became policy, and as different neighborhoods made requests through the years, the TMP would establish a procedure to evaluate alternatives, explain current policy, and attempt to achieve consistency among neighborhoods, and find what works and what didn't work to further enhance consistency.

Member Gjerdingen suggested that as part of the process, by neighborhoods bringing issues before staff and working cooperatively, a way may be found in the future for citizens or the City to bring those issues forward to Ramsey County.

Commissioner discussion returned to those items Mr. Schwartz had previously identified in the staff report for additional focus.

- Resident cost participation when the traffic study calls for the use of consultants

Discussion included expertise of in-house staff versus hiring a consulting engineer for a study based on competencies; how those costs could best be addressed consistently and fairly if a study didn't proceed to construction or installation and could not be included as part of the overall project cost; and the receptiveness of a neighborhood to assume those study costs.

Chair DeBenedet opined that such studies were the cost of government, recognizing that in-house competencies and expertise were not always going to be available without seeking outside consultants.

Mr. Schwartz advised that staff was fully cognizant of their level of expertise; however, he noted the importance for the City Council to realistically

understand the need for a resource commitment on their part in adopting a TMP policy.

Member Vanderwall concurred, noting that the City Council needed to commit to fund studies, even if there was a potential that there would be no cost-sharing available if there was no final project.

Mr. Schwartz advised that this was the rationale for some cities in requiring a date certain for request for an annual review and prioritization; and questioned if the PWET Commission wanted to consider that as part of their TMP recommendation.

Member Stenlund noted the neighborhood petition requirements addressed in the TMP and upfront knowledge by a neighborhood of the potential costs for a prospective tool. However, Member Stenlund noted that there was no way to know the cost for assessments upfront, other than estimates from other recent or similar projects.

Further discussion included if a maximum cap for outside consultants was prudent, such as a maximum of \$15,000; the level of study required dictating the cost; and how best to educate neighbors requesting a tool of the costs for studies and their response upfront, while slowing down the process but keeping the levels of communication open and transparent.

Exhibit 1 Flow Chart (page 23 of the packet)

Members Stenlund and Vanderwall suggested including steps that would address the public input, with a decision tree to move forward; and addition of another box entitled “Neighborhood Feedback” and “Defining Study Costs” as another loop and where it occurred during the process.

Mr. Schwartz noted that, under current procedures, the assessment portion didn’t come in until later in the process.

Members Vanderwall and Gjerdingen noted that the additional step outlined in the flow chart would educate the public on the potential of assessment or upfront costs; and provide fair warning of those costs.

Chair DeBenedet concurred, noting that residents would then know the associated costs to proceed to the next step; and their 75% cost-share for the study if recommended to proceed.

Member Vanderwall noted the need for residents to understand, as a group, of the necessary commitment to find an answer to their request as well as being aware of other potential costs down the road. However, Member Vanderwall opined that allowing the neighbors to get to Step 8 without a clear and concise understanding of potential costs would be inadvisable. Member Vanderwall

suggested that Step 4 provided another opportunity for awareness of potential estimated costs.

Member consensus was that staff should identify potential costs and steps in the initial application, in Step 1.

Further discussion included City Council funding for studies that didn't result in a project, as part of doing business; and a public understanding that when that particular funding resource is eliminated or significantly diminished, no more projects could be considered until the next funding cycle.

By consensus, and due to time constraints, it was member consensus to defer discussion on the organized collection item on the agenda to a future meeting; with Chair DeBenedet alerting the public to that deferral.

Page 28 of the Packet / Area 9 of the Document under Table 2

Member Vanderwall noted the 25/75% cost-share, and suggested and suggested an additional sentence related to identifying non-implemented studies born by fund: "Only studies done up to available funding levels..." or "funding levels for the process will generally be determined by the number of studies done in a given year."

Chair DeBenedet noted those traffic studies requiring outside consultants and suggested clarification that: "...at Step \_\_, if the project does not proceed, the cost of the study will be borne by the City; but if it proceeds, the cost of the study will be included in the total project cost and potentially be assessable to benefitting residents."

- Process for staff removal of strategies deemed to cause problems or safety issues identified from temporary strategies; process involved to remove? (page 14 of the document; page 32 of the packet)

Chair DeBenedet suggested that procedures should generally be followed as outlined in the program; however, if removal of the request is initiated by the benefitted area, language should specify that: "...removal of strategies will be completely charged to property owners."

Member Vanderwall questioned why the first portion of that language was limited to safety/crash complaint issues for city-initiated implementation or based on pending development, not existing issues.

Consensus of members was to include that language: "if removal is initiated to accommodate new development or redevelopment, the developer is responsible for costs, not the City."

Mr. Schwartz noted that this should clarify that those costs were not charged back to citizens when they paid for the initial installation; and the unfairness of them then having to pay again for its removal.

Discussion included justification for removal or mitigation impacts for removal; emergency or safety hazards; and cost responsibility for those initiating the process as part of a neighborhood effort and discussion.

- Discussion of traffic circles and roundabouts

Discussion included whether roundabouts were included in the TMP, with examples provided; consideration of small roundabouts to manage traffic, such as use of a planter base that wouldn't change an intersection but calm traffic; practicality of installing roundabouts based on the significant amount of right-of-way required; snow plowing considerations; identification on page 15 of the TMP of traffic circles; potential of the roundabouts on Prior Avenue and Twin Lakes Parkway and their status as local streets if multi-family housing developed in that immediate area; and differences in developed versus undeveloped areas or retrofitting existing neighborhoods addressed in the TMP.

It was the consensus of members that traffic circles and roundabouts had a place in the TMP; with Member Stenlund opining that traffic circles could be installed internally.

Further discussion included roundabouts included in the definition section of the TMP (page 18/page 55); and changing the definition to "raised island" to "island," whether flushed or raised.

- Definitions

While having no additional additions or comments on the definitions, members asked if a clean copy could be provided to members for a more refined review.

Member Stenlund expressed his willingness to move the document toward recommendation as presented with those minor revisions as addressed.

- Funding Sources / Commitment

Mr. Schwartz noted that, if the TMP moved forward for recommendation to the City Council, PWET Commissioners should be mindful that the TMP currently had no available funding source for such a policy or its implementation strategies; and questioned if the PWET Commission's recommend should include further discussion on a recommendation to the City Council on first-year funding for implementation of such a policy.

Member Gjerdingen suggested that "street closure" be removed as an option in the TMP; or to add "street opening" as another tool option.

Chair DeBenedet and Members Stenlund and Vanderwall opined that that did not apply to the TMP.

Member Vanderwall recognized the rationale of Member Gjerdingen; and in balancing whether or not a street should remain open, it wouldn't hurt to leave it in the TMP if it should come up.

Mr. Schwartz advised that, when considering whether or not to open a street, it dramatically changed the original intent of the TMP policy up to this point in addressing strategies and tools in built-out neighborhoods. Mr. Schwartz advised that this could then create significant changes to neighborhoods, using County Road C-2 as an example; and would involve a broader public policy discussion. However, with closure, Mr. Schwartz noted that a temporary measure could be initiated as a strategy, such as at County Road D and Wheeler.

Member Vanderwall concurred with the original consensus to not include language about opening a street to avoid changing the intent of the TMP; and suggested that the consensus appeared to be to leave "street closure" in the TMP; but not to include "street opening" at this time unless it was later found to be needed as part of the TMP's practical application.

Member Stenlund moved, Member Vanderwall seconded, recommending to the City Council the Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan as amended through tonight's discussion and including those points brought forward by Mr. Schwartz in the staff report for additional or clearer focus.

**Ayes: 5**  
**Nays: 0**  
**Motion carried.**

**7. Organized Trash Collection – Continued Discussion**

Due to time constraints, this item was deferred to a future meeting

**8. Change of Date / Possible Items for Next Meeting – December 27, 2011**

Chair DeBenedet polled Commissioners on their preference for a December meeting; their availability; and other scheduling commitments.

By consensus, Commissioners concurred on holding a December meeting; however, it was suggested that it be moved forward one week from December 27 to December 20, 2011.

To avoid a lengthy meeting, Chair DeBenedet suggested that the agenda be kept to a minimum of content, including those items identified by staff in their report

dated November 22, 2011; with the majority of the meeting addressing the organized trash collection issue.

Member Vanderwall moved, Member Stenlund seconded rescheduling the December regular meeting from December 27 to December 27, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

**Ayes: 5**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion carried.**

**9. Adjourn**

Member Stenlund moved, Member Felice seconded, adjournment of the meeting at approximately 8:58 p.m.

**Ayes: 5**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion carried.**

# Roseville Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission

## Agenda Item

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**Date:** December 20, 2011

**Item No:** 4

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**Item Description:** Communication Items

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- Projects update-
  - o Check for City Construction project updates at: [www.cityofroseville.com/projects](http://www.cityofroseville.com/projects)
  - o Josephine Woods – The weather prevented the Contractor from installing curb and gutter. After paving a temporary access road on the Dunlap street alignment, the contractor has buttoned up the site for winter. The city has issued 4 building permits for new homes. The home construction should continue through the winter. The City Council awarded a contract for engineering services for the Josephine Lift Station Replacement.
  - o County Road B2 & Rice Street Reconstruction Phase 2- the City Council ordered the feasibility report for these projects at their December 12th meeting.
  - o Park Improvement Projects- engineering is working with Parks on identifying priority pathway projects for construction over the next 4 years. One of the projects identified is the County Road B2 pathway project. We are working on estimates and schedules.
  - o Staff is working on plans for the following projects:
    - Fairview Pathway (NE Suburban Campus Connector) Phase 2
    - 2012 Mill and Overlay
    - County Road C2- sidewalk and connection
    - Drainage improvements
    - Sanitary Sewer Lining Project
    - Waterman lining project
- Budget and Utility Rate update
- Other

**Recommended Action:**

None

**Attachments:**

# **Roseville Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission**

## **Agenda Item**

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**Date:** December 20, 2011

**Item No:** 5

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**Item Description:** Organized Collection Continued Discussion

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**Background:**

The PWETC received comment from the Waste Haulers Association, The Roseville Citizen's League, and The League of Women Voters at your October meeting regarding organized waste collection. As time was running short at that meeting, the Commission deferred discussion to the December meeting. The Chair requested all previous packet materials be included in this packet for the discussion and possible recommendation.

**Recommended Action:**

Discuss possible recommendation to the City Council.

**Attachments:**

- A. Previous packet materials on Organized Collection
- B. Heavy Trucks Sample Analysis
- C.



## Administration Department

# Memo

**To:** Bill Malinen, City Manager  
**From:** Tim Pratt, Recycling Coordinator  
**Date:** August 16, 2007  
**Re:** Organized Garbage Collection

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In both the 1991 report "Options for Residential Waste Collection and Recycling in Roseville" and the 2002 report "Residential Solid Waste and Recycling Citizen Advisory Committee Report" committees of residents recommended the City adopt a system of organized collection for garbage – a system in which the City contracts for service on behalf of residents.

The primary reason they cited for switching was the ability to direct where garbage would be dumped. Minnesota has a hierarchy of waste disposal options (MN Statute 115A.02(b)) which states that if waste is not reused, recycled or composted, processing waste into fuel is preferred to landfill disposal. An organized collection contract would allow the City to stipulate that garbage collected in Roseville be taken to a processing facility such as the one in Newport.

Under the current system, haulers are able to choose where to take the garbage they collect and using data from the haulers we know that much of the garbage collected in Roseville is being landfilled. In a 2002 survey, 90% of Roseville residents said they would prefer their garbage go to a processing facility rather than being landfilled. The committees also cited these benefits for organized collection: decreased rates, increased services such as yard waste or organics collection, and decreased truck traffic.

Earlier this year you asked me to research three topics related to organized garbage collection:

- 1) How would the City go about switching to organized garbage collection?
- 2) What rates do residents pay for waste collection services in Ramsey County cities that have organized collection?
- 3) Can the City charge haulers a franchise fee in order to provide waste services in Roseville?

### Process for Switching

The legislature has established a procedure that cities must use in order to switch to organized collection (MN Statute 115A.94). Basically 180 days before implementing an ordinance to organize collection, the Council must adopt a resolution of intent. The resolution of intent must be adopted after a public hearing. The hearing must be held at least two weeks

after public notice and mailed notice to operators of solid waste collection services in Roseville – currently there are seven licensed residential collection services. The City is then required to meet with all the currently licensed haulers to discuss implementation of organized collection. If no agreement is reached with the haulers the City may implement an organized collection system.

Organized collection may be provided by a single hauler as is done in North St. Paul and White Bear Lake or by a consortium of haulers as is done in Little Canada and Vadnais Heights.

### **Rates**

Residents in cities with organized collection typically pay lower rates or have higher levels of service or both. Haulers realize savings through economies of scale by serving every household in a geographic area. Those savings result in lower rates or increased services.

#### **96-Gallon Garbage Service Per Month**

| <b>Little Canada</b>                                                                  | <b>Roseville</b>                                                                                                                                                 | <b>Vadnais Heights</b>       | <b>White Bear Lake</b>       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| \$20.23                                                                               | \$17.44 (average of all haulers)                                                                                                                                 | \$15.50                      | \$15.00                      |
| Includes recycling, taxes and curbside collection of up to three bulky items annually | Does not include \$1.90 monthly recycling charge or taxes which would be \$6.59 on the average rate. If included the monthly charge would be \$25.93 on average. | Includes recycling and taxes | Includes recycling and taxes |

Vadnais Heights also offers discounted rates for the following levels of service: senior door side, senior curbside, every other week and townhome.

White Bear Lake also offers a senior rate of \$7.50 a month for 30-gallon cart service.

### **Franchise Fee**

There is precedent for imposing a fee on waste haulers as a condition of their operating license. For instance Ramsey County requires waste haulers to levy a 28% County Environmental Charge (CEC) on residential garbage bills. Fees such as the CEC charged to haulers are typically passed on to customers.

The Minnesota Supreme Court upheld the ability of cities to levy an environmental service charge which is implemented similarly to a franchise fee. The Western Lake Superior Sanitary District imposes an environmental charge on solid waste collection. WLSSD uses money

raised from the fee to pay for waste processing as well as household hazardous waste programs, composting, waste education programs, clean up days, and recycling activities.

In *Zenith/Kremer Waste Systems v. Western Lake Superior Sanitary District*, 572 N.W.2d 300 (Minn. 1997), the Supreme Court upheld the charge. The Court found the charge consistent with waste statutes, and not in violation of the state and/or federal constitution. Though Roseville is not in the same position as WLSSD, the concept of an environmental service charge is one that could be explored further.



## Residential Solid Waste and Recycling Citizen Advisory Committee Report

### Executive Summary

May 2002

### Major Findings

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○ Since the 1991 report there have been many developments in the garbage and recycling industries. Those changes include:

■ The number of Roseville residents recycling and the amount they recycle have stayed about the same since 1992

■ Every Minnesotan is making more garbage (just over a ton a year) despite efforts at waste reduction, reuse and recycling

■ Garbage haulers are no longer required to take our trash to a facility that processes it into fuel for electricity plants

■ More of our garbage is being sent to out of state landfills

■ Consolidations in the garbage hauling industry resulting in fewer haulers serving Roseville residents

○ Residents surveyed are pleased with their garbage service. Sixty-three percent rated it excellent and 33% rated it good. Seventy-nine percent said the rates seem fair for the service provided; 16% said the rates were too high for the service provided.

○ Residents surveyed said they are concerned about where their garbage goes and would prefer garbage haulers take trash to a resource recovery facility instead of a landfill.



*Garbage being processed at a Resource Recovery Facility.*

○ Residents surveyed said the most important part of a garbage collection system would be keeping it low cost.

○ Among the improvements in the recycling program residents would like are: to accept more materials and to improve the bin system by either making them bigger, covered or wheeled, or to provide more bins.

○ Roseville is not meeting goals set by the City Council to reduce waste and increase recycling.

○ Roseville is not meeting the State's hierarchy that calls for waste reduction and reuse, recycling, composting, using resource recovery and avoiding using landfills to dispose of our trash.

○ Only about a third of Roseville apartment, condo and townhome residents can recycle where they live.

- Roseville charges apartment buildings, condos and townhomes a recycling fee, but doesn't provide recycling service to them.
- Roseville's population is aging. Since 1990, Roseville had nearly four times the percentage growth in residents over age 75 as Ramsey County and Metro areas.
- Roseville has traditionally designed programs to meet the needs of elderly residents. For instance garbage and recycling haulers are required to offer walk up service. And the City of Roseville offers a senior discount on water bills; more than 25% of water accounts receive the senior discount.
- Roseville residents are paying more for garbage service than our neighbors in cities that contract for service.
- A 1999 study shows that 35% of our garbage by weight is paper and 26% is organic material such as food scraps much of which could be recycled or composted.
- A few Minnesota cities are using or testing organics collection and composting programs to help residents reduce their garbage.
- In the next five years millions of computers and television sets will become obsolete nationwide. They contain lead and other hazardous materials, however there is no organized program to collect old electronic items and keep them out of our trash.
- Seventy-eight percent of homeowners and 70% of multi-unit complex residents surveyed said they would be very likely or somewhat likely to take items to a City-organized clean up day.
- City staff says illegal dumping is not a problem on City land. However they say illegal storage of appliances, furniture, brush and other items on personal property is a significant problem.

## **Key Recommendations**

- Offer a Citywide clean up day run by a company or companies in which residents will be charged for disposal and Roseville subsidizes 1/3 of the disposal cost.
- Expand and enhance communication to residents about the proper ways to dispose of electronics, appliances, brush, yard waste and other items that cannot or should not be put in your trash.
- Require garbage haulers to annually give their customers a complete list of their disposal services and rates.
- Expand Roseville's recycling program to include all apartment buildings, condos and townhomes.
- Explore ways to increase the number of Roseville homeowners who recycle and increase the amount they recycle.
- Meet the City's and State's environmental goals by designing a garbage system that uses environmentally preferred management of waste. Of the methods studied by the Committee, an organized collection system run by a consortium of private haulers appears to give the City the best, and perhaps only, means to meet the City's and State's environmental goals and balance citizen interests and concerns.

## Report Summary

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Everyone generates waste. By waste we mean things that we have, that we no longer wish to have. Perhaps it's an old piece of furniture, yesterday's newspaper or a candy bar wrapper. Sometimes we give those things away, sometimes we recycle them and sometimes we throw them in the garbage. Those are some, but not all, of the parts of the waste system.

We all use the waste system, although most of us take it for granted. Our garbage and recycling are often picked up when we're not home and taken someplace we don't see. But the choices we make, either explicitly or by default, impact lives and livelihoods, the natural environment and the business environment.

The City Council adopted a set of environmental goals in 1992. The goals were based on recommendations in the Vista 2000 report. The environmental goals adopted by the Council are:

- Identify and solve local pollution problems through clean up, mitigation and prevention.
- Continue the emphasis on waste reduction and the improvement of the community's recycling efforts.
- Continue the emphasis on strong programs which develop environmental awareness in all of our citizenry.

In June 2001 the Roseville City Council established a Residential Solid Waste and Recycling Citizens Advisory Committee to review Roseville's practices and policies on garbage and recycling established following a 1991 citizens report, study alternatives and make recommendations.

Committee members spent 10 months hearing presentations from officials with the State,

Ramsey County and other Minnesota cities. We conducted a survey of homeowners and another of apartment, townhome and condo residents; conducted focus groups with residents, apartment owners and managers, and garbage haulers; conducted a public workshop; and took written and phone comments.

Members also toured the Resource Recovery Facility, the Household Hazardous Waste collection site, Waste Management's single stream recycling facility and other cities' clean up day programs.

Committee members found most residents are glad that their trash and recycling are picked up in a timely fashion and taken away. Residents surveyed are pleased with their garbage service. At the same time they are concerned about where their garbage goes for disposal.

At the time of the last report in 1991, Ramsey County required all garbage collected go to the Resource Recovery Facility in Newport, Minnesota. But a 1994 U.S. Supreme Court decision declared garbage hauling to be interstate commerce and the County's requirement was made moot.

Garbage haulers told the committee they now make decisions

about where to take our garbage based primarily on cost.



It costs more to process waste at a resource recovery facility than to dispose of it in a landfill. As a result, a growing proportion of Minnesota garbage is being taken to landfills in other states; landfills often owned by the largest garbage haulers.

Meanwhile Roseville is not meeting goals set by the City Council to reduce waste and increase recycling. Each Minnesotan produces more than a ton of trash a year up 23% since 1993. And recycling participation rates and the amount collected have shown no pattern of consistent growth since 1992 (see graphs at right).

Using the knowledge gained from our activities, Committee members determined what we saw as the elements of an effective solid waste and recycling system and then ranked them in order of importance (see detailed list in Appendix A).

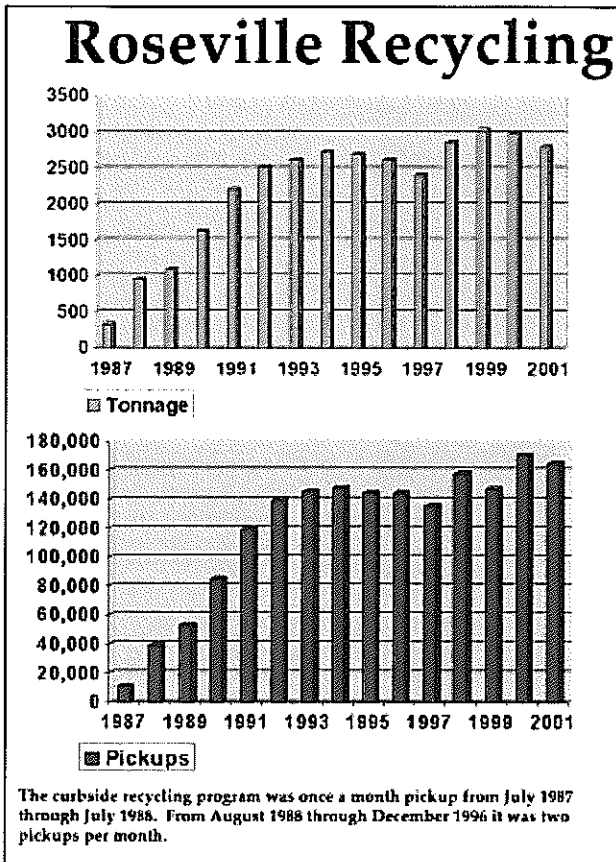
#### What are the elements of an effective solid waste and recycling system?

| <u>Rank</u> | <u>Element</u>                                         |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1           | Environmentally preferred management of waste.         |
| 2           | Reasonable cost                                        |
| 2 (tie)     | Good Customer Service                                  |
| 4           | Education                                              |
| 5           | Simple and Convenient                                  |
| 5 (tie)     | Access to Service                                      |
| 7           | Customer Choice                                        |
| 8           | Expanded Opportunities for Disposal of Difficult Items |
| 9           | Reduce Traffic                                         |

Committee members used the City Council's environmental goals as well as their list of elements of an effective solid waste and recycling system and their knowledge of solid waste and recycling policies and programs as they deliberated various options that could be incorporated into Roseville's recycling and garbage systems.

## Clean Up Day

Cities that run Clean up days organize them as an annual event residents can plan on to dispose of items that typically cannot be put in with their regular trash such as appliances,



furniture and brush.

According to the Committee's 2002 Roseville resident survey there appears to be significant interest in holding a clean up day in Roseville. Seventy-eight percent of homeowners and 70% of multi-unit complex residents said they would be very likely or somewhat likely to take items to a clean up day.

#### Recommendations:

The committee recommends Roseville re-institute an annual clean up day run by a private company in which the City pays one-third of the disposal cost (approximately \$12,000 a year). The committee also recommends the clean up day have a reuse area where residents can swap reusable items, and have electronics collection where the company guarantees the products will be dismantled and recycled in the United States.

## Bulky Items

### Recommendation:

The committee believes residents should be fully informed of the need for proper disposal of difficult items and of all the public and private programs to help them recycle and dispose of these items. To help inform residents, the committee recommends Roseville change its licensing for garbage haulers to require they annually inform residents of all the haulers waste services and the rates for those services.

## Electronics

### Recommendations:

Include in a Citywide clean up day and area for electronics drop off. Require the vendor guarantee the electronics material it receives remains in the U.S. for processing and/or disposal.

Encourage the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance to promote electronics recycling programs and support the MOEA's efforts at product stewardship.

## Garbage

While Roseville contracts for recycling service, residents contract individually for garbage service.

### Current System

Roseville homeowners contract with any of eight companies licensed by the

City to remove their garbage. Homeowners may change haulers as they wish and haulers are free to recruit customers as they wish. This system is called Open Collection.

Although the system is not completely free of



regulation by Roseville. Following the 1991 report, the City was divided into five zones each with its own day of the week for pickup of garbage and recycling. The City also has a set of service standards required for licensing that include offering separate pickup of yard waste and brush, and offering walk up service for which haulers can charge extra. There is, however, no monitoring for compliance.

Roseville residents surveyed are generally pleased with their garbage service. Sixty-three percent rated it excellent and 33% rated it good. Seventy-nine percent said the rates seem fair for the service provided; 16% said the rates were too high for the service provided. Focus group members said they were pleased that their garbage hauler picked up their trash and took it away so that they didn't have to think about it anymore.

But that didn't stop focus group members and survey participants from wondering what happened to their trash. Thirty-two percent of residents surveyed said they were very concerned where their garbage goes, 48% were somewhat concerned and 20% were not very concerned. Ninety percent said they would prefer their garbage goes to a resource recovery facility where it is turned into fuel for an electricity generating plant instead of going to a landfill.

### State Hierarchy

The State agrees that it would rather see garbage go to a resource recovery facility. In 1980 the Minnesota Legislature established an order of preference for managing waste in order to protect the state's environment and public health. This preferential order is:

- ♻ Reduction and Reuse
- ♻ Recycling
- ♻ Yard and Food Waste Composting
- ♻ Resource Recovery
- ♻ Landfilling with methane collection
- ♻ Landfilling with no methane collection

Roseville's environmental goals to decrease waste and increase recycling fit well into the State's hierarchy. However this waste management order of preference is not being met.

### **Organized Collection**

Some of our neighboring cities use a system of organized collection to meet environmental goals and the needs of residents.

Cities contract for service on behalf of residents with either one hauler as is done in North St. Paul and or a group of haulers as is done in Little Canada and Vadnais Heights.

Cities do this for a number of reasons including lowering costs to residents, lessening truck traffic on city streets, designating a disposal facility for the garbage in order to meet environmental goals, setting enforceable customer service standards and expanding the number of services available to residents.

Some committee members were surprised to learn that Roseville's open hauling system in which garbage companies compete against each other for customers does not offer the lowest rates.

Residents in cities with organized collection pay \$3.25 to \$5.75 a month less than Roseville residents for garbage and recycling service.

### **Recommendation:**

Committee members unanimously recommend a garbage system that meets the City's environmental goals and the members' top priority of environmentally preferred management of waste. That system should also follow the State hierarchy. Of the methods studied by the Committee, an organized collection system run by private haulers appears to give the City the best, and perhaps only, means to meet the City's and State's environmental goals and balance citizen interests and concerns.

The majority of Committee members believe the best way to achieve environmentally preferred management of waste is through a contract with a consortium consisting of all the current haulers in Roseville (as was done in Vadnais Heights and Little Canada). These consortiums typically divide the cities into zones with one hauler assigned to each zone. However, Roseville may require more than one hauler per zone in order to preserve customer choice. Such service may cost residents more than a single hauler per zone system.

That contract is the only way where the City can specify that waste be managed using what is currently the environmentally preferred waste method: a resource recovery facility.

Additionally, the Committee strongly believes the City should monitor developments by the State, County and private sector to determine if a future alternative might better meet the City's and State's environmental goals and balance citizen interests and concerns.

Furthermore, the Committee believes a waste management system consisting of a consortium of current private waste haulers in collaboration with the City could also provide the following benefits to Roseville residents:

- Negotiated lower rates to customers (the top priority of the majority of residents surveyed – 53%)
- Preserve customer choice (the second highest priority of residents surveyed – 40%)
- Limited truck traffic that reduces wear and tear on streets, thus reducing or delaying property tax assessments for road maintenance or replacement
- Limited truck traffic that reduces air pollution, noise pollution and improves

or enhances neighborhood safety and appearance

- Strong performance and incentive-based contract provisions that would guarantee a high level of customer service

- Provide residents with clear, annual delineation of haulers' services and rates

- Expand and enhance residents' knowledge about the full range of public and private services and costs for disposal of difficult items

The Committee recognizes that there are Roseville residents who would not want the City Council to restrict their ability to choose a garbage hauler, and that there are concerns about how government involvement with the consortium of haulers might impact cost, service and small haulers' viability. The Committee understands those concerns and believes a City contract with a consortium of all the current haulers in Roseville will preserve market share for small haulers, and allow the City to set strong performance and incentive-based contract provisions that would guarantee a high level of customer service while meeting residents expressed desires for lower rates and environmentally preferred management of their waste.

## Household Hazardous Waste

Ramsey County offers a free Household Hazardous Waste Collection program. There is a year round drop off site in St. Paul; Roseville hosts



*Ramsey County's seasonal HHW site in Roseville.*

a seasonal site on Kent Street just east of the intersection of Larpenteur and Dale.

### Recommendation:

The committee believes the City and Ramsey County should do even more to educate residents about Household Hazardous Waste and proper disposal of HHW.

## Leaf Pickup Program

Minnesota banned the burning of leaves and other yard waste effective January 1, 1971. In response to the ban, Roseville began curbside collection of leaves.

Roseville originally offered the leaf pickup program at no additional cost to residents. The City began charging a small fee in 1997 and participation dropped. However use has been growing every year since then.



Meanwhile the leaf pickup program has allowed Roseville to avoid paying to clean out catch basins and reduce the amount spent on stormwater pond cleanup.

### Recommendation:

The committee believes this is a valuable program that more residents will use as Roseville's population ages and recommend it be continued. The committee believes staff should expand and enhance education to residents about the benefits of proper disposal of leaves.

## Recycling

Roseville's participation rate of 65% is one of the highest in the state. But to make the program better, members believe the system

should be more convenient.

### **Multi-family Complexes**

Roseville is not providing recycling service to most apartment, condo and townhome residents. Owners can contract with a private company if they wish, but only about a third do. Roseville has traditionally treated apartments, condos and townhomes differently than houses. But the State and Ramsey County include these multi-family complexes in their recycling requirements for cities. Additionally Roseville has been charging multi-family complex owners the City's recycling fee while not providing any service.

#### **Recommendation:**

Committee members believe the City should meet its goal to improve recycling efforts in Roseville by including all apartment, condo and townhome complexes in the City's program. To ease the transition the committee suggests this expansion be phased in adding condos and townhomes first with apartments to follow. And that complexes not be charged until they receive service.

### **Residential Curbside Recycling**

Committee members found two main ways to do that based on resident needs: collect recycling more often or offer better bins.

Residents surveyed asked that bins be larger, wheeled, covered or just more of the current bins.

An intriguing program of putting all recycling into a single, wheeled cart is just starting here in Minnesota. While the program shows great potential, there are some significant drawbacks



that must be overcome. Single stream recycling processing has a higher rate of material that is damaged and can't be recycled (called residual). This can result in less material that is actually recycled into new paper, cans or jars even though more material may be collected.

#### **Recommendation**

The committee believes Roseville should do all it can to meet its environmental goal to improve the City's recycling efforts. However the committee could not reach a consensus whether the City should continue with the current system while expanding and enhancing public education campaigns, switch to every week collection or should proceed with single stream recycling collection. A list of the pros and cons of each system is included in the full report and Appendix B. Members wish to leave it to the Council or a future committee to decide.

### **Yard Waste**

Minnesota banned putting yard waste in with your garbage effective January 1, 1990.

In response to the ban Roseville required all licensed garbage haulers to offer separate yard waste and/or brush collection.

Most Roseville residents surveyed mulch their grass and don't have to dispose of it. Twenty percent compost yard waste in their back yard, 20% arrange a special pickup with their garbage hauler and 14% take it to a free County compost site.

#### **Recommendation:**

This system is working well and the committee recommends the City continue requiring garbage haulers offer yard waste pick up, while enhancing and expanding education campaigns to residents about the benefits of low maintenance lawn care, mulching and composting.

## Brush

There are no public drop off sites for brush in Roseville. Thus, most residents surveyed arrange a special pick up with their garbage hauler. Residents split almost 50/50 on whether they would use a public brush drop off site.



### **Recommendation:**

The committee recommends Roseville offer brush drop off as part of an annual clean up day. In addition the City should expand and enhance education campaigns to residents about what to do with brush during other times of the year as well as require haulers to annually inform residents about services and rates as was mentioned earlier.

## Organics

Some cities are starting or testing programs for residents to separate organic material from their trash so that it can be composted.

An example is the City of Hutchinson that operates a curbside organics collection program. Each participating household is given a 90 gallon wheeled organics cart similar to a trash cart and special kitchen waste compostable bags. Residents can put in food waste; compostable cardboard such as pizza and freezer boxes; paper products such as paper plates, napkins and paper towels along with yard waste. A Food Waste Recovery truck picks up the organics and hauls them to the City run compost facility.

The finished compost is a quality product that is then sold to offset part of the cost of the program.

Hutchinson runs an actively used organics collection program. Wayzata and Burnsville are currently conducting pilot programs. St. Paul just finished an organics pilot program and is looking for a way to offer that service to residents.

### **Recommendation:**

The committee recommends Roseville study organics collection as a way to meet the City's goals of reduced waste and increased environmental awareness of residents.

## Garbage

Roseville residents select a garbage hauler and contract with that company. Roseville regulates garbage collection by dividing the City into five zones where each zone has its own day of the week for garbage collection. There are 8 companies licensed to collect garbage in Roseville.

Q16) On which day is your garbage picked up? (circle one)

| <u>Freq</u> | <u>(%)</u> |    |           |
|-------------|------------|----|-----------|
| 115         | (28)       | 1. | Monday    |
| 66          | (16)       | 2. | Tuesday   |
| 61          | (15)       | 3. | Wednesday |
| 107         | (26)       | 4. | Thursday  |
| 59          | (14)       | 5. | Friday    |
| 41          |            |    | BLANK     |

Q17) Which garbage service do you currently use? If you don't know, please ask someone else in your household. (circle one)

|     |      |    |                         |
|-----|------|----|-------------------------|
| 51  | (12) | 1. | BFI                     |
| 0   | (-)  | 2. | Gene's Disposal Service |
| 0   | (-)  | 3. | Highland Sanitation     |
| 5   | (1)  | 4. | Horrigan's Hauling      |
| 1   | (0)  | 5. | Mudek Disposal          |
| 8   | (2)  | 6. | Superior                |
| 199 | (48) | 7. | Walter's                |
| 149 | (36) | 8. | Waste Management        |
| 4   | (1)  | 9. | Other                   |
| 32  |      |    | BLANK                   |

Q18) How would you rate their service? (circle one)

|     |      |    |           |
|-----|------|----|-----------|
| 269 | (63) | 1. | Excellent |
| 139 | (33) | 2. | Good      |
| 15  | (4)  | 3. | Fair      |
| 4   | (1)  | 4. | Poor      |
| 22  |      |    | BLANK     |

# SINGLE-FAMILY - ROSEVILLE RESIDENT SURVEY

Q19) How would you rate their cost? (circle one)

| <u>Freq</u> | <u>(%)</u> |                                                               |
|-------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 321         | (79)       | 1. Rates seem fair for service provided                       |
| 19          | (5)        | 2. Rates are reasonable, but service level should be improved |
| 65          | (16)       | 3. Rates seem too high for service provided                   |
| 44          |            | BLANK                                                         |

Q20) Why did you pick that garbage hauler? (circle all that apply)

| <u>Freq</u> | <u>(%)*</u> |                                                                             |
|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 118         | (29)        | a. Same hauler as my neighbors                                              |
| 132         | (32)        | b. Offered a low introductory price                                         |
| 14          | (3)         | c. Agreed to take my garbage to a processing facility instead of a landfill |
| 84          | (20)        | d. Offered the best service                                                 |
| 75          | (18)        | e. Offered the lowest long-term price                                       |
| 125         | (31)        | f. Other (please describe) _____                                            |
| 40          |             | BLANK                                                                       |

Q21) Are you concerned about the effect garbage trucks have on any of the following?  
(circle all that apply)

|     |      |    |                                          |
|-----|------|----|------------------------------------------|
| 91  | (22) | a. | Air pollution                            |
| 84  | (20) | b. | Noise pollution                          |
| 47  | (11) | c. | How my neighborhood looks                |
| 65  | (16) | d. | Street maintenance                       |
| 73  | (17) | e. | Safety                                   |
| 266 | (63) | f. | No, I'm not concerned about any of these |
| 29  |      |    | BLANK                                    |

Q22) Would you want Roseville to limit the number of garbage haulers if by doing so the City could do any of the following? (circle all that apply)

|     |      |    |                                                             |
|-----|------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 215 | (53) | a. | Negotiate lower garbage rates                               |
| 122 | (30) | b. | Reduce wear and tear on City streets                        |
| 97  | (24) | c. | Require haulers to provide a high level of customer service |
| 100 | (24) | d. | Reduce pollution                                            |
| 56  | (14) | e. | Improve the way my neighborhood looks                       |
| 82  | (20) | f. | Improve safety                                              |
| 165 | (40) | g. | Would not want Roseville to limit the number of haulers     |
| 41  |      |    | BLANK                                                       |

\*Respondents could circle more than one answer, so the percentages will not total to 100%.

SINGLE-FAMILY - ROSEVILLE RESIDENT SURVEY

Q23) How concerned are you about how your garbage company disposes of your garbage and the impact it may have on the environment? (circle one)

| <u>Freq</u> | <u>(%)</u> |                       |
|-------------|------------|-----------------------|
| 135         | (32)       | 1. Very concerned     |
| 204         | (48)       | 2. Somewhat concerned |
| 85          | (20)       | 3. Not very concerned |
| 25          |            | BLANK                 |

Q24) Has your garbage hauler told you where the company takes your garbage?

|     |      |        |
|-----|------|--------|
| 157 | (40) | 1. Yes |
| 239 | (60) | 2. No  |
| 53  |      | BLANK  |

Q25) Would you prefer your garbage be taken to a recovery facility where much of your garbage is turned into fuel to be burned at an electricity generating plant, taken to a landfill, or disposed of in another manner? (circle one)

|     |      |                                           |
|-----|------|-------------------------------------------|
| 363 | (90) | 1. Recovery facility                      |
| 19  | (5)  | 2. Landfill                               |
| 19  | (5)  | 3. Another manner (please describe) _____ |
| 48  |      | BLANK                                     |

Q26) Would you be willing to pay more if your hauler guaranteed to dispose of your garbage at a recovery facility instead of sending it to a landfill?

|     |      |                     |                                                                   |
|-----|------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 212 | (51) | 1. Yes -----> Q26a) | How much more per month would you be willing to pay? (circle one) |
| 201 | (49) | 2. No               |                                                                   |
| 36  |      | BLANK               |                                                                   |

| <u>Freq</u> | <u>(%)</u> |         |
|-------------|------------|---------|
| 56          | (29)       | 1. \$1  |
| 84          | (43)       | 2. \$2  |
| 49          | (25)       | 3. \$5  |
| 7           | (4)        | 4. \$10 |
| 253         |            | BLANK   |

- Q27) Roseville may change the current system of garbage collection. In making the decision about any changes it would be helpful to know which of the following issues is most important to you. Please rank them 1 - 5, with 1 being the most important and 5 being the least important. (Write one number on each blank).

(SEE APPENDIX A, PAGES A-2 TO A-4)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Lower cost  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Guarantee a high level of customer service  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Ability to chose my own hauler  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Guarantee my garbage is taken to a recovery facility  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Reduce garbage truck traffic on my street

## Household Hazardous Waste

State and Federal government regulations restrict what can be put in your garbage. The regulations are designed to ensure hazardous materials are disposed of in a physically and environmentally safe manner. Ramsey County operates a year-round site in St. Paul and a seasonal site in Roseville where residents may dispose of hazardous material for free such as lawn chemicals, bug spray and leftover paint.

- Q28) Have you used Ramsey County's seasonal site on Kent Street in Roseville for dropping off household hazardous waste?

| <u>Freq</u> | <u>(%)</u> |    |                  |                                                |  |
|-------------|------------|----|------------------|------------------------------------------------|--|
| 183         | (42)       | 1. | Yes -----> Q28a) | How would you rate their service? (circle one) |  |
| 252         | (58)       | 2. | No               |                                                |  |
| 14          |            |    | BLANK            |                                                |  |
| <u>Freq</u> | <u>(%)</u> |    |                  |                                                |  |
| 82          | (45)       | 1. |                  | Excellent                                      |  |
| 89          | (49)       | 2. |                  | Good                                           |  |
| 8           | (4)        | 3. |                  | Fair                                           |  |
| 2           | (1)        | 4. |                  | Poor                                           |  |
| 268         |            |    | BLANK            |                                                |  |

- Q29) Have you used the year-round site at Bay West in St. Paul?

| 57          | (13)       | 1. | Yes -----> Q29a) | How would you rate their service? (circle one) |  |
|-------------|------------|----|------------------|------------------------------------------------|--|
| 381         | (87)       | 2. | No               |                                                |  |
| 11          |            |    | BLANK            |                                                |  |
| <u>Freq</u> | <u>(%)</u> |    |                  |                                                |  |
| 31          | (54)       | 1. |                  | Excellent                                      |  |
| 24          | (42)       | 2. |                  | Good                                           |  |
| 1           | (2)        | 3. |                  | Fair                                           |  |
| 1           | (2)        | 4. |                  | Poor                                           |  |
| 392         |            |    | BLANK            |                                                |  |

# Coon Rapids / Passionate about their trash

BY DAVE ORRICK  
Pioneer Press  
TwinCities.com-Pioneer Press

Article Last Updated:10/01/2007 11:41:02 PM CDT

Every day is trash day in Coon Rapids.

With four waste haulers grabbing garbage on different days of the week and different schedules for recyclables and yard waste, every residential street, every morning, features lines of trash bins amid the rumble, beeping and hydraulic drone of garbage trucks.

But when several staff members in the Anoka County suburb set out to "explore the possibility" - they swear that's all they're doing - of going to one citywide waste hauler, they ran headlong into one universal truth:

People are passionate about who's going to pick up what they throw out.

In advance of a hearing today, staff and elected officials have been pounded with thousands of postcards telling them to back off their alleged monopolistic intentions. The campaign is spearheaded by waste haulers, who kicked off a leafleting effort as soon as word of the city's analysis wafted out of city hall.

It's having an effect.

"My poor wife's been home this week, and the phone hasn't stopped ringing," Mayor Tim Howe said. Then he conceded: "I just don't see us going to an organized one-hauler system, and I'm sensing that from the council."

Over the years, a number of other suburbs have similarly tried - and backed off. Arden Hills, Lauderdale and Roseville are among them. In 2002, Ramsey and Washington counties considered the idea as a way to increase garbage sent to the county-contracted Resource Recovery Facility in Newport, until some 14,000 postcards arrived telling them not to even think about it.

Here's the crux of the issue: A number of studies by municipalities suggests prices actually go down with one hauler. Plus, the argument goes, fewer garbage trucks will cruise the streets on fewer days, easing stress on roads and generally making life better. On the other side are those who say it's just wrong to take away a customer's right to choose, not to mention all the smaller independent waste haulers who could be put out of business.

The second argument seems to win out, according to the waste haulers.

"It's been our experience when this issue comes up that it's almost universal that the citizens want choice, and in every community we've seen a huge outpouring by the citizens," Doug Carnival said.

He's a lawyer for the Minnesota Chapter of the National Solid Wastes Management Association and the guy behind the Coon Rapids onslaught, which tallied more than 2,500 letters by late Wednesday, nearly all speaking out against the idea of eliminating residents' ability to shop around for their garbage man.

"Competition is what makes this country great," one resident wrote. "I WANT CUSTOMER CHOICE!!" scrawled another.

Tim Pratt's seen it before. He's the recycling coordinator for Roseville, which has thrice explored the possibility of reducing the number of waste haulers - now seven - to one. Each time - 1988, 1991, 2002 - a citizen committee recommended changing things, and each time the City Council backed off amid louder citizen opposition.

"There's just this sense in some people that 'You're trying to take away one of my God-given rights: to choose my garbage hauler,' " he said.

So why do communities keep trying?

"Residents in cities with organized collection typically pay lower rates or have higher levels of service or both," according to a city report Pratt recently completed.

According to his survey, government-managed systems in neighboring Little Canada, Vadnais Heights and White Bear Lake pay less, on average, than Roseville residents. A Coon Rapids survey concluded the same general trend, comparing its haulers' average rates with neighboring one-hauler communities such as Blaine, Circle Pines, Columbia Heights and Centerville.

Waste haulers dispute such comparisons.

"They're not necessarily comparing apples to apples," said George Walter, who has run Blaine-based Walters Refuse & Recycling with his brother Greg for nearly two decades.

Walter and others note that in areas where residents can choose their haulers, price schemes include different services and charges. For example, is yard waste included? Is there a rental fee for the bin?

In fact, in an open system, any homeowner can strike whatever deal they can bargain with a hauler. But don't think you can really find out if you're paying too much. When the Pioneer Press requested price information from several haulers in open systems, they responded it was a protected business secret.

"And if it was all about price, why do people go to Manny's or Outback to eat dinner instead of McDonald's or White Castle?" Walter said.

There's something else odd about the politics of garbage: The waste haulers and residents are silent in cities that already have gone to a one-hauler system.

"You go next door to Little Canada and Vadnais Heights and you don't have people storming City Hall demanding their God-given rights to choose a garbage hauler," Pratt observed.

In 1993, when Hastings, where Waste Management has consistently won the single-hauler contract, considered opening up its system, leaders sensed no momentum for any change, City Administrator David Osberg said.

"It reduces traffic. It saves money. Overall, it's been a very good system, and the public seems to agree," he said.

In the end, Coon Rapids may explore some compromise with haulers to eliminate the everyday parade of trucks in every corner of town - a prospect several haulers said they're open to discussing.

In the meantime, there's always the grassroots method. In May, one St. Paul resident, fed up with his alley being clogged by any one of the 23 residential haulers who operate in the city, rallied his neighbors to pick one hauler. He persuaded 22 of 24 families.

Dave Orrick can be reached at [dorrick@pioneerpress.com](mailto:dorrick@pioneerpress.com) or 651-228-2171.

How is your trash trucked?

Not all residential garbage is hauled equally. Here are the most common systems and cities that use them:

**Open:** It's between you and any hauler who offers service in your area. (Woodbury, St. Paul)

**Organized:** Haulers bid for all trash. Elected officials pick winner. (Blaine, Hastings)

**Zoned/hybrids:** Haulers split up turf and scheduling with various levels of regulation. (Little Canada, Brooklyn Park)

**Municipal:** City workers in city trucks. (Minneapolis)

Source: Pioneer Press research

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Jay T. Squires  
Direct Fax: (612) 225-6834  
jts@ratwiklaw.com



January 8, 2009

Mr. Bill Malinen  
City Manager  
2660 Civic Center Drive  
Roseville, MN 55113-1899

***SUBJECT TO ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE***

RE: *Organized Waste Collection Process*  
Our File No. 4002(1)-0001

Dear Mr. Malinen:

You requested a brief summary of the organized collection process. Following is a short description of the process under law.

Minnesota law contains requirements relating to the adoption of any contract or ordinance concerning the collection of solid waste. These requirements would apply in any situation in which the City regulates the collection of waste in the City. The Minnesota Organized Collection Statute outlines the procedure for the City to adopt an ordinance or contract for the organized collection of waste.<sup>1</sup> These requirements are summarized as follows:

Notice of Hearing. The first step is for the City to give public notice that the City Council will be holding a public hearing to consider a resolution of its intent to organize collection of solid waste. The City must mail notice of the hearing to persons the City knows are collecting solid waste in the City. The public and mailed notices must be done at least two weeks before the hearing is conducted.

---

<sup>1</sup> Minnesota Statute § 115A.94.

JAN 09 2009

Mr. Bill Malinen  
January 8, 2009  
Page 2

Public Hearing. The City Council then holds the public hearing and adopts a resolution of its intent to organize collection of solid waste. An ordinance, contract, or license for organizing collection cannot be adopted for at least 180 days from the passage of the resolution. The resolution must also invite interested persons, including those licensed to collect solid waste, to participate in the planning of the organized collection.

90-Day Planning Period. During the 90-day period after the resolution is adopted, the City must develop plans or proposals for the organized collection. During this 90-day planning period, the City must invite and use the assistance of persons licensed to operate solid waste collection in the City.

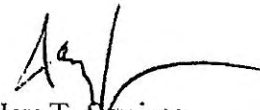
90-Day Negotiation Period. For an additional 90-day period following the 90-day planning period, the City must discuss possible organized collection arrangements with all licensed collectors operating in the City who have expressed interest in participating in the process. If the City is unable to reach an agreement with a majority of the licensed participants, or at the end of the 90 days, the City can implement an ordinance, contract, or license for organized collection of solid waste.

Findings. In enacting an organized collection method, the City must make specific findings. These findings must describe in detail the procedures the City used to plan organized collection and attempts to implement organized collection through an arrangement with interested collectors. Findings that evaluate the collection method in terms of achieving stated goals, minimizing displacement of collectors, ensuring participation of all interested parties in the decision-making process, and maximizing efficiency in solid waste collection are also required.

Abbreviated Procedure. An organized collection system can be put into place in less than 180 days if the City and all the licensed solid waste collectors agree on a plan.

Please contact me if you have any additional questions or comments regarding this matter.

Regards,



Jay T. Squires

JTS/cg

## **Answers to Potential Resident Concerns About Organized Garbage Collection**

(6/19/2009)

### **1) It's not broken, so why are you trying to fix it?**

It's not completely broken, but it's not operating as efficiently and effectively as it could. As many as six haulers could drive a truck up and down a street on collection day. That means additional wear and tear on streets, increased diesel emissions, increased traffic, increased noise and a possible decrease in public safety.

Residents in cities with organized collection such as Little Canada, Vadnais Heights, North St. Paul, and White Bear Lake pay lower costs and receive more levels of service than Roseville residents.

Currently two-thirds of the garbage collected in Roseville is sent to landfills. The state adopted a hierarchy of waste management methods with source reduction being the best method and landfilling as the worst. Only with organized collection could Roseville direct that all garbage collected in the city be sent to a waste to energy or processing facility. Waste to energy is considered by the state to be a renewable source of energy and is preferred to landfilling.

In a 2002 survey 70% of Roseville residents surveyed were either very or somewhat concerned about where their garbage goes. And 90% said they would prefer their garbage goes to a recovery facility instead of a landfill. A majority of residents surveyed (51%) even said they would be willing to pay more to have their garbage taken to a recovery facility.

### **2) Why would government expand to start running garbage service?**

Private haulers would continue to provide garbage service. The City is basically facilitating group purchasing. Collections will become more efficient. There will be other benefits that come from the economies of scale of haulers providing service to contiguous neighborhoods, and those benefits will be passed along to Roseville residents.

### **3) Government will make it less efficient than if left to the private sector.**

Currently there are six licensed residential garbage haulers operating in Roseville. So up to six garbage trucks could make stops on a street on collection day. This resulting inefficiency is one reason why rates are higher in Roseville as compared to our neighboring cities that have organized collection.

Haulers realize efficiencies by having all the stops in a compact, contiguous region. Those efficiencies result in a cost savings that is passed on to residents.

Officials in neighboring cities with organized collection report their system works well. And that they get few if any complaints.

### **4) You're taking away my right to choose the hauler that can best meet my needs.**

Garbage service becomes a utility much like electricity and water service. You don't choose your provider for those services.

The City would negotiate for a menu of services and you would be able to select from that menu just as you do now.

Most residents do not pick a garbage hauler based on the services they provide. In a 2002 survey 32% of residents said they picked their hauler because it offered a low introductory rate, and 29% picked their hauler because it was the same as their neighbors.

When residents were asked to rank the importance of various garbage collection issues, 46% ranked lower cost as the most important followed by 25% who ranked ability to choose your own hauler as most important. And 25% said choosing your own hauler was the least important to them of the five issues (lower cost, high level of customer service, ability to choose hauler, guarantee garbage is taken to a recovery facility, reduce truck traffic).

**5) I can get lower rates/better service by negotiating on my own.**

Typically that's not true. Haulers will offer teaser rates that get customers to switch. But those rates go up over time. Plus haulers are free to add or increase fuel surcharges and other fees at any time.

A survey of rates in our neighboring cities with organized collection show that they all have lower rates than what haulers offer to residents of Roseville. In a 2002 survey 53% of residents said they would want Roseville to limit the number of haulers if the City could negotiate lower rates.

Haulers have also unilaterally begun adding on to their bills items such as Fuel Surcharges and Cart Retrieval Fees. If the City were to negotiate rates, then fees could only be added by mutual agreement.

**6) Is any plan set in stone, or how could changes be made?**

Haulers sign a contract with the City which is typically for three years. The City can make changes to the contract when rebidding or negotiating an extension.

**7) Market forces are the most effective way to solve problems.**

Market forces currently in place have not given Roseville residents the lowest rates or the widest array of possible services.

A public/private partnership leverages the unique strengths of the haulers and the City to provide for efficient and effective service.

**8) My hauler has to directly compete for my business which makes them more responsive to my needs.**

Most residents pay little attention to their garbage service, so they make few demands of their hauler.

As a result we see things such as a "Cart Retrieval Fee" that appeared in small print on one company's bills. The language also said that merely by paying the bill, the customer was giving consent to pay the fee which could be imposed in the future. A number of customers that paid the

bill and later were assessed the fee have called City staff to complain. The residents said the company told them there would be no negotiation or compromise on the fee.

Another practice is creeping price increases. Some companies make minor upward adjustments in prices over time. Here is one example out of many reported to City staff: a resident who had been involved in a study of garbage practices many years ago called City staff to ask for the list of licensed garbage haulers. She said that the hauler she has had for more than 30 years has raised rates and she wanted a cheaper alternative. Staff advised her to call her current hauler and ask for a lower rate. She did and reported back to staff that her hauler cut her bill nearly in half. She also said that she felt her hauler had taken advantage of her inattention to raise her rates.

Residents that called to complain felt the added fees in small type and gradual rate increases demonstrated the haulers were unresponsive to their needs.

**9) Won't it cost the City more because it will have to administer the contract?**

Administrative costs are incorporated into the contract.

**10) I chose my hauler from the group of licensed haulers, now you're going to tell me I may have to use a hauler that I declined to pick.**

Each hauler in a consortium would be assigned a segment of the city where they would provide service. Additionally the City would establish customer service standards in the contract. The City oversees the contract to ensure those customer service standards are met.

**11) Organized collection will squeeze out the little haulers.**

The recommendation from the resident task force is to set up a consortium of haulers. All the haulers currently doing business in the city would be invited to join the consortium.

Currently the little haulers are being squeezed out. In 1992 there were 21 licensed haulers serving Roseville. In 2009 there are six. The largest haulers have been buying up the smaller haulers and increasing their market share.

**12) Won't this lead to job cuts at companies that lose market share?**

Under a consortium agreement, haulers could ensure their market share. They could, however, voluntarily sell their business to another hauler.

**13) What if I end up receiving poor customer service?**

You could contact your hauler just as you do now, except now you have more clout. Because the City administers the contract, the City has regulatory powers and can intervene to ensure the service from the haulers meets Roseville standards.

**14) Won't this mean we should restrict delivery trucks and school buses?**

Different types of heavy vehicles have different equivalent single axle loads or ESALs. ESALs compare the wear caused by a heavy vehicle to the wear caused by a passenger car. MnDOT uses a conservative ESAL factor that states one garbage truck trip is equivalent to 1000 car trips. School buses are about half as much and delivery trucks are only about a quarter as much as garbage trucks. Residential streets have average daily traffic counts of 200 to 500 vehicles.

**15) Will I lose the ability to share a garbage container with my neighbor?**

No. The contract can provide for opt out provisions such as garbage sharing or taking your residential garbage to your business.

What they couldn't do is refuse garbage service and then sneak their bags into a dumpster.

**16) Low polluting CNG trucks aren't available and current model trucks have to meet lower emissions standards so how would this clean up the air?**

Pre-2007 trucks do not have to meet lower emissions standards and there are many older trucks currently operating in Roseville. By contracting the City can require that all vehicles meet the lower emissions standards.

A recent study by the State shows that there are fewer vehicle miles traveled by garbage trucks in cities with organized collection. Fewer miles traveled will result in fewer emissions.

**17) Landfills must meet state and federal environmental standards, so disposing of stuff there is not bad.**

All new landfills must be lined so that leachate does not get into the ground water – as has happened with the 3M landfill. Metro area landfills also capture landfill gas from closed sections and burn it before it can enter the atmosphere.

Even so, the U.S. EPA calculates that landfills are responsible for nearly two percent of all greenhouse gas emissions in the country.

Roughly a third of all garbage collected in Ramsey County is shipped to Wisconsin landfills that do not capture landfill gas. And the metro area landfills do not capture landfill gas from the active dumping areas. As a result the EPA calculates that landfills with capture systems only capture 75% of all the methane produced.

Waste is not processed before being dumped in a landfill. At processing facilities steel and aluminum are captured for recycling – approximately 5% of the material processed at the Elk River plant is separated as recyclable metal.

**18) There's not a shortage of space for landfill disposal in this country.**

There are no new landfills being sited in Minnesota. The three metro area landfills in Inver Grove Heights, Burnsville and Elk River are all projected to run out of space within 20 years.

**19) Landfill gas is collected and burned to generate electricity just as is done with RDF.**

The U.S. EPA estimates that landfills with gas capture systems only capture 75% of all the landfill gas produced. And not all gas that is captured is burned to produce electricity. Some is simply flared so that the methane is not released into the atmosphere. Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) is a greenhouse gas many times more potent than carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). If waste is processed into refused derived fuel (RDF) no methane is produced in the incineration process.

According to the U.S. EPA combusting one ton of mixed municipal solid waste (MSW) instead of landfilling avoids the production of .61 tons of carbon dioxide equivalents. CO<sub>2</sub> is the main gas linked to global warming.

**20) How does a garbage truck cause damage?**

MnDOT estimates that one garbage truck trip down a street is equivalent to 1,000 car trips down the same street. That's substantially more wear.

Also when trucks are stopped for collection they put pressure on the pavement. Newer trucks have technology that allows for compaction while moving which has lowered the amount of stoppage time.

A study from the University of Michigan Transportation Institute shows that starting forward and stopping by garbage trucks increases the amount of wear depending on the speed of the truck and the weight of the load being carried. That factor can be a 50% to 100% increase in wear.

**21) Side load tandem axle trucks don't cause as much damage as rear loading single axle trucks.**

Side load trucks have an extra axle that means that less weight is transferred from the truck to the point of impact with the street. Thus there is less wear caused by a side loading truck as compared to a rear loading truck. But there is still a significant amount of wear caused.

**22) Trucks have to meet new efficiency standards so the diesel exhaust is not as bad a problem as people make it out to be.**

Trucks that are 2007 model and newer have to meet lower federal emissions standards. California has even tighter emissions standards and fleets there are switching to compressed natural gas and other alternative fuels.

However, significant amounts of the fleets currently operating in Roseville do not have to meet the higher emissions standards. Roseville could negotiate with the haulers to ensure that only newer vehicles are used to service the City.

**23) Waste incineration emits harmful substances into the air & the ash has to be landfilled.**

Plants that burn waste to generate electricity are newer than most of the coal fired plants in the state. Thus they have to meet much more stringent emissions standards. The waste burning plants are well below their emissions ceilings.

The ash from the incineration is inert. Some fly ash (from the smokestack) has been used as an ingredient in cement. Burn plants are seeking permission to find more uses for more of their ash. Ash that is landfilled is sent to special landfills. It is not allowed to be stored above ground or near bodies of water as was the case with the coal ash spill in Tennessee.

**24) Can the city negotiate senior discount rates?**

Trucks that are 2007 model and newer have to meet lower federal emissions standards. California has even tighter emissions standards and fleets there are switching to compressed natural gas and other alternative fuels.

However, significant amounts of the fleets currently operating in Roseville do not have to meet the higher emissions standards. Roseville could negotiate with the haulers to ensure that only newer vehicles are used to service the City.

**25) Can the city negotiate bulky item pick up?**

Yes. Little Canada allows residents to have up to two bulky items picked up at the curb each year. Other cities such as Robbinsdale allow residents to pay a small fee for bulky item pick up. Those fees are less than what Roseville residents are currently charged for similar service.

**26) Can the city negotiate for organics collection?**

Yes. The City can negotiate rates and services to meet the needs of residents. Wayzata has curbside cart service for food scraps and non-recyclable paper. Anywhere from 25 – 35% of household trash in Minnesota is materials such as these that could be composted. Composting takes unwanted items and turns them into a valuable resource. Wayzata saw a 9% reduction in the amount of garbage collected in the first year of organics collection.

As a result many households can switch to a smaller garbage cart. Wayzata even had 180 households switch to every other week garbage collection as a result of organics collection.

**27) How would the City work with haulers to educate residents about waste reduction?**

The City and the haulers each have various communication tools they use. The City and the haulers would develop a communications plan that creates consistent messages and identifies the best means to send those messages to residents.

**28) I get free yard waste pickup from Walter's will I lose that service?**

The City will negotiate rates and services with all the haulers that will provide service to Roseville residents. As a result individual agreements will no longer be in place. While the price for an individual service may go up, the net annual cost may go down.

**29) Will the city be liable for any toxic material that is illegally disposed of in the trash?**

Any responsible party is liable for illegal dumping. The City does assume a portion of liability if toxic material were to be dumped and cause contamination. However, since the City would only be providing for residential service as opposed to business service, the likelihood that an individual homeowner will attempt to illegally dispose of large amounts of toxic material is slim. Additionally state and federal investigators would pursue the individual resident responsible.

**30) The Newport Resource Recovery Facility is already operating at capacity.**

Actually the Newport is not operating at capacity. A few years back there was a dispute between the haulers and Ramsey and Washington Counties and the haulers decided to swamp the RRF with all the garbage they collected in Ramsey and Washington Counties. So for one year only, the RRF did have more material come in than it could process and ending up sending some garbage to landfills.

Since then a private company, RRT, bought the Newport and Elk River processing facilities and operates them jointly. As a result there is capacity to process all garbage generated in Roseville.

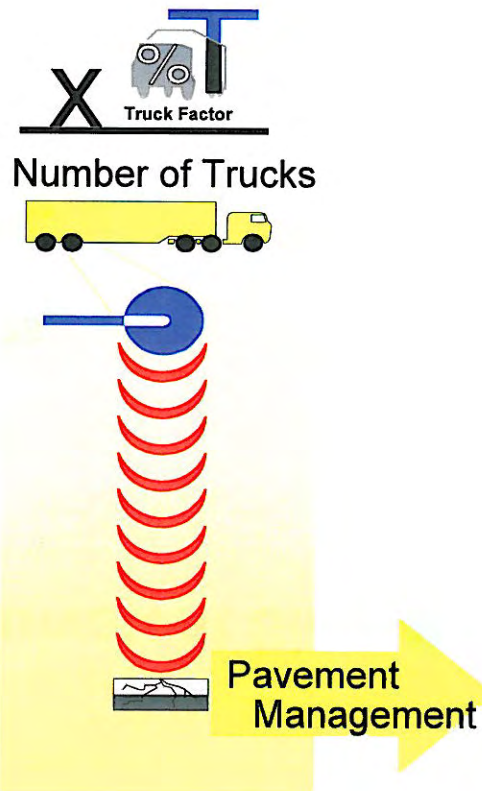
## Pros and Cons of Organized Garbage Collection

| Pros                                                                                                                             | Cons                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lower rates                                                                                                                      | Some residents develop personal relationships with their hauler that could be lost      |
| Fewer trucks on streets resulting in less wear and tear on streets                                                               | Some residents perceive this as government meddling in the free market                  |
| Fewer truck miles travels resulting in less diesel emissions                                                                     | Some residents believe that only an open system will result in the best possible system |
| City can designate where garbage goes for disposal. Thus direct garbage be taken to a processing facility instead of a landfill  | Could lose free yard waste pickup for current Walter's customers                        |
| Fewer trucks on streets resulting in less noise                                                                                  |                                                                                         |
| City enforces contract to ensure high level of customer service                                                                  |                                                                                         |
| Can get accurate information about how much garbage is generated in the city                                                     |                                                                                         |
| City can negotiate for additional services such as the inclusion of curbside bulky waste collection                              |                                                                                         |
| Creates a partnership between the City and haulers in order to promote City goals on being an environmentally friendly community |                                                                                         |



# TRAFFIC DATA FOR PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT

MAY 6-9, 2007



1

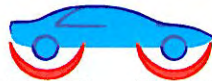
•Harshad Desai,  
•Federal Highway Administration



**ESAL**

## Equivalent Single Axle Load

4,000 lbs



**.0002**

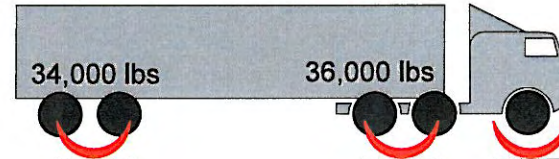
**.0002**

**.0004**

**ESAL**



80,000 lbs



**1.09**

**1.38**

**.09**

**2.56**

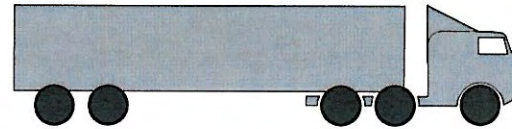
**ESAL**





# ESAL

Equivalent Single Axle Load



**20 cars = 1 truck = 80,000 lbs**

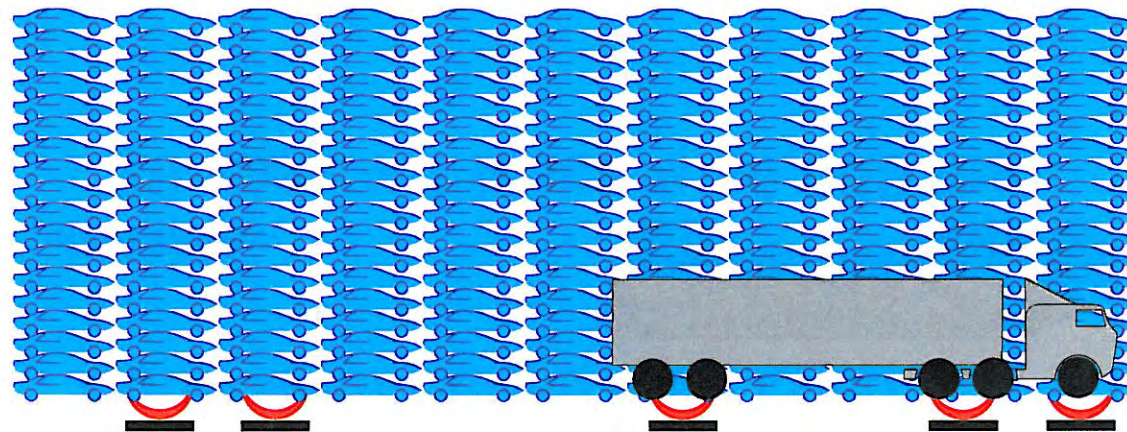


## ESAL

Equivalent Single Axle Load



**20 cars = 1 truck = 80,000 lbs**



**6,400 cars = 1 truck = 2.56 ESALs**  
(FHWA estimates 9600:1)

## Review of Trash Collection Impacts

This section provides an analysis of the following trash collection service impacts:

- Street Maintenance Impacts;
- Air Quality / Vehicle Emissions;
- Neighborhood Aesthetics;
- Noise; and
- Safety.

### Street Maintenance Impacts

#### Background / Overview

Road maintenance is designed to address deterioration. While roads will eventually deteriorate if simply left unused, most deterioration is associated with use; and the damage caused by vehicles goes up much more than proportionately with size and weight. Hence, costs associated with maintenance are greater for trips made by heavy vehicles. A single large truck can cause as much damage as thousands of automobiles, and the configuration of the truck can affect the amount of damage as well. If the load is spread over more axles, so there is less weight on each wheel, then the damage is reduced.<sup>6</sup>

Trash trucks are typically the heaviest vehicles regularly operating on residential (local) streets. As a result, they are a major contributor to the wear and tear on those streets. While trash trucks also contribute to the wear and tear on collector and arterial streets, those streets are designed to a higher standard and experience significantly more vehicle trips and large truck trips than local streets. As such, the relative impact of a trash truck on collector and arterial streets is significantly less than that on local streets. Commercial solid waste collection in the City, however, is provided through an open competition license system, with approximately 10 licensed commercial haulers currently operating in the City. This large number of commercial haulers increases the impact of trash trucks on the City's collector and arterial streets compared to a system in which there are fewer licensed haulers or a single service provider (e.g., a municipal or contracted system).

The pavement condition index (PCI) is a common unit of measure used to rate the condition of pavements. The PCI rates pavements on a score of 0 to 100 with a higher value indicating better pavement condition. Rapid deterioration of pavement typically

<sup>6</sup> A. Rufolo, *Cost-Based Road Taxation*, Cascade Policy Institute, November 1995.

## Section 2

### Review of Trash Collection Impacts

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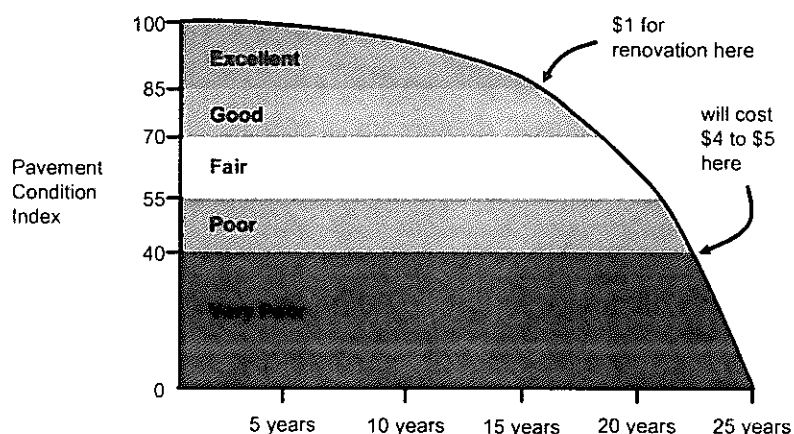
## Review of Trash Collection Impacts

occurs after roadways drop to a PCI score of 60 or lower. Studies have shown that every dollar spent performing preventative maintenance on a roadway with a PCI of 70 or higher saves \$4 in future costs – it would otherwise cost about \$5 to rehabilitate the same roadway once rapid deterioration occurs<sup>7</sup> (as shown in Figure 1). Ensuring adequate funding for an effective pavement management system is, therefore, critical to achieving a cost effective pavement management system.

**Figure 1**

### Good Roads Cost Less to Maintain

Pavement Condition Index Goal 70+



The goal of a pavement management program is to bring all roads up to a "good" to "excellent" condition where they can be maintained most cost effectively. The strategy often recommended is referred to as the "Best First Approach", which concentrates spending initially on routine and preventative maintenance on those roads that are currently in "fair" to "good" condition. This extends the useful life of those roads, preventing rapid deterioration. Spending money on routine maintenance now prevents additional spending in the future on more expensive repairs.

The City's goal is to maintain a PCI of greater than 70 which falls within the "Good" range. The City has been able to maintain its streets at or near this target which has allowed it to provide cost effective maintenance. The 2008 and 2009 approved budgets, however, do not provide sufficient funding to maintain streets at their current level. The 2008 budget is more than \$1.0 million less than that required to maintain streets at their current level while the 2009 budget is more than \$2.5 million less than required. If

<sup>7</sup> J. Gerbracht, *Bay Area Roads Close to "Tipping Point"*, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Street Talk, March 2006.

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## Review of Trash Collection Impacts

funding continues to be less than that required to maintain the streets at their current condition the quality of the City's streets will decrease over time and maintenance costs will increase. This is a negative cycle and one that should be avoided if at all possible.

### Analysis

#### Open Competition vs. Districted Collection Impacts

In general, all other factors the same, moving from an open competition collection system to a districted collection system would be expected to reduce the number of vehicle miles traveled with a corresponding decrease in the associated street maintenance impacts. However, when considering trash truck street maintenance impacts and the potential effect of districted collection on those impacts it is important to consider that:

- Both the size of the collection vehicles and the average number of passes each vehicle makes down each residential street segment may change under a districted system. As a result the impact per vehicle may be more or less than under the current open competition system.
- At least one hauler provides both residential and commercial service with the same vehicle. If that hauler was not awarded a residential district its vehicles would continue to impact those residential streets it uses to access commercial accounts, assuming it continued to provide commercial service.
- If a hauler(s) not currently providing residential or commercial service in the City was awarded a district under a competitive procurement, that hauler might also compete for commercial accounts with a resulting increase in commercial trash truck impacts.

Our approach to projecting trash truck street maintenance impacts is based on common principles of pavement design and vehicle loading. The basic premise is that all vehicles, including trash trucks, exert an impact on streets that can be quantified. That impact or "vehicle loading" can be expressed as an Equivalent Single Axle Load (ESAL), which is a function of the vehicle's weight and the distribution of that weight over the vehicles axles. By projecting the number and type of vehicles (e.g., cars, trucks, trash trucks) that travel on a street over its design life, and the average ESAL associated with each vehicle type, the total ESALs that street will experience can be calculated. The relative impact associated with a specific type of vehicle (e.g., trash trucks) can then be determined based on the percentage of the total ESALs attributed to that vehicle type.

For purposes of our analysis, we requested information on the types of residential trash and recycling trucks used by the licensed haulers and their average load weights. We also obtained

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# Review of Trash Collection Impacts

manufacturer axle weight profiles for the same or similar truck types and reviewed traffic count data and street maintenance expense and funding information provided by the City. Information provided was used to develop residential trash and recycling truck axle weight profiles. This information was then used to project the impacts of trash and recycling trucks on the City's residential streets, which was expressed as percentage of the total vehicle impacts experienced by those streets.

In developing the projections it is important to note that the calculated impacts are based in part on various assumptions including:

- The average number of vehicle trips per residential street;
- The percentage of total vehicle trips made by trucks other than trash and recycling trucks and the average axle weights of those vehicles; and
- The average number of trash and recycling truck trips per week on a typical residential street.

Reasonable changes to those assumptions can have a material impact on the calculated impacts.

**Note:** *One hauler uses vehicles with a single fixed rear axle and a pusher axle<sup>8</sup>. The impact of those vehicles increases significantly if the pusher axle is not used during collection operations. Also pusher and tag axles generally have two tires per axle rather than four, which also increases the impacts relative to a fixed rear axle with four tires.*

Table 1 below provides a comparison of the calculated combined trash and recycling truck impacts on residential streets as a percentage of the total vehicle impacts. The table presents the results for various assumptions regarding the average number of passes trash and recycling trucks make each week on residential streets.

The table also provides:

- The allocation of the annual cost required to maintain the residential streets at their current condition to trash and recycling trucks in proportion to their calculated vehicle impacts; and
- The projected annual carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions associated with each scenario.

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<sup>8</sup> A dead axle, also called lazy axle, is not part of the drive train but is instead free-rotating. Many trucks and trailers use dead axles for strictly load-bearing purposes. A dead axle located immediately in front of a drive axle is called a pusher axle. A tag axle is a dead axle situated behind a drive axle (Source: Wikipedia).

# Review of Trash Collection Impacts

**Table 1**

| RESIDENTIAL TRASH & RECYCLING VEHICLE IMPACTS      |                        |              |                                  |                                                                                                      |                                     |      |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------|
| Average Vehicle Passes / Week / Residential Street |                        |              | Percent of Total Vehicle Impacts | Allocated Portion of Total Annual Cost to Maintain Residential Streets at Current Condition (\$2008) | Annual CO2 Emissions <sup>(1)</sup> |      |
| Trash Truck Passes                                 | Recycling Truck Passes | Total Passes |                                  |                                                                                                      | Pounds                              | Tons |
| 6.0                                                | 6.0                    | 12.0         | 20.1%                            | \$ 506,000                                                                                           | 813,000                             | 407  |
| 5.0                                                | 5.0                    | 10.0         | 17.1%                            | \$ 432,000                                                                                           | 678,000                             | 339  |
| 4.0                                                | 4.0                    | 8.0          | 14.0%                            | \$ 354,000                                                                                           | 542,000                             | 271  |
| 3.0                                                | 3.0                    | 6.0          | 10.8%                            | \$ 272,000                                                                                           | 407,000                             | 204  |
| 2.0                                                | 2.0                    | 4.0          | 7.4%                             | \$ 186,000                                                                                           | 271,000                             | 136  |
| 1.0                                                | 1.0                    | 2.0          | 3.8%                             | \$ 96,000                                                                                            | 136,000                             | 68   |

<sup>(1)</sup> EPA Emission Facts: Average Carbon Dioxide Emissions Resulting from Gasoline and Diesel Fuel

For purposes of a base case analysis of the effects of changing from the current open competition system to a districted collection system we assumed that:

- There are an average of 4 residential trash truck and 4 recycling truck passes on each residential street segment each week for the open competition system (e.g., 2 trash trucks and 2 recycling vehicles making two passes down each residential street each week); and
- There will be an average of 2 residential trash truck and 2 recycling truck passes each week for a districted collection system.

Table 2 below provides a comparison of the trash and recycling truck impacts and the allocated street maintenance cost for the current open competition system and a districted collection system based on these assumptions. As shown, the associated impacts and allocated pavement maintenance costs for a districted system are essentially half that for the current open competition system based on the noted assumptions.

The effect of changes to the assumed number of vehicle passes for the open competition system and/or a districted collection system listed above can be determined using the information

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# Review of Trash Collection Impacts

presented in Table 1 above. As an example, if we assume an average of 6 rather than 8 total trash and recycling trips per week for the current open competition system, the associated "Percent of Total Vehicle Impacts" is 10.8% rather than the 14.0% for the base case shown in Table 2. The associated reduction in the "Percent of Total Vehicle Impacts" in this case is 3.4% (10.8% - 7.4%) rather than 6.7%. The corresponding reduction in the "Allocated Portion of Total Annual Cost to Maintain Residential Streets at Current Condition" would be approximately \$86,000 (\$272,000 - \$186,000) rather than the \$168,000 for the base case (\$354,000 - \$186,000) shown in Table 2.

**Table 2**

| COMPARISON OF OPEN COMPETITION AND DISTRICTED COLLECTION TRASH & RECYCLING VEHICLE IMPACTS |                                                                    |                                  |                                                                                                      |                      |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Collection System                                                                          | Total Trash & Recycling Vehicle Passes / Week / Residential Street | Percent of Total Vehicle Impacts | Allocated Portion of Total Annual Cost to Maintain Residential Streets at Current Condition (\$2008) | Annual CO2 Emissions |            |
|                                                                                            |                                                                    |                                  |                                                                                                      | Pounds               | Tons       |
| Open Competition                                                                           | 8.0                                                                | 14.0%                            | \$ 354,000                                                                                           | 542,000              | 271        |
| Districted Collection                                                                      | 4.0                                                                | 7.4%                             | \$ 186,000                                                                                           | 271,000              | 136        |
| <b>Reduction (Districted vs. Open)<sup>(1)</sup></b>                                       | <b>4.0</b>                                                         | <b>6.7%</b>                      | <b>\$ 168,000</b>                                                                                    | <b>271,000</b>       | <b>136</b> |

<sup>(1)</sup> The Districted Collection "Percent of Total Vehicle Impacts" and "Annual Cost to Maintain Residential Streets at Current Condition" is greater than half the calculated impacts for the Open Competition System due to the methodology used, which assumes a constant number of vehicle trips for each scenario.

While the estimated impacts are subject to changes in the various underlying assumptions, we believe that the analysis provides a reasonable projection of the magnitude of trash truck impacts on the City's residential streets, which is supported by various independent third-party estimates. Appendix C (Comparative Trash Truck Load Factors) provides a comparison of the estimated passenger car equivalents estimated for the residential trash and recycling trucks operating in the City to independent references in support of the reasonableness of the estimates used in our analysis.

## Change in Street Design Standards

The City adopted new design standards for streets in 1999 that are expected to increase the available vehicle loads streets can handle over their lifetime. These new standards do not affect the calculated percentage impacts of trash and recycling trucks on residential streets, since that calculation is not based on street design standards. Those standards would, however, be expected to reduce annual maintenance costs over time. As a result, the

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## Review of Trash Collection Impacts

allocated street maintenance costs attributed to trash and recycling trucks would be reduced accordingly.

### Options / Recommendations

- ✓ ***Require that haulers not load vehicles in excess of manufacturer's recommendations or limitations imposed by state or local vehicle weight restrictions (see Appendix A for sample language). Require haulers to implement an ongoing monitoring program to assure compliance with that requirement;***
- ✓ ***Require 2 fixed rear axles on all new vehicles. Require full time use of pusher or tag axle on any existing vehicles with a single fixed rear axle;***
- ✓ Encourage the Police Department to more aggressively monitor and enforce vehicle weight limits;
- ✓ Establish a street maintenance impact fee to provide funding to offset pavement maintenance cost impacts associated with trash collection services (see Appendix A for sample contract language);
- ✓ Require co-collection vehicles<sup>9</sup>; and
- ✓ ***Implement a Districted Collection System or City-Wide Contract for Services to reduce the number of residential trash truck miles traveled and the associated street maintenance impacts.***

### Air Quality / Vehicle Emissions

#### Background / Overview

The nation's trash truck fleet is huge, more than three times the size of urban bus fleets, and nearly 100% dependent on diesel fuel. That diesel fuel is often burned in old engines that operate without state-of-the-art pollution controls. Trash trucks are also one of the most fuel inefficient vehicles on the roads today, with an average fuel efficiency of approximately 2.8 miles per gallon. As a result, trash trucks are a major cause of air pollution in cities across the country. Diesel engines have, however, gotten cleaner since the late 1980's. In fact, with new federal emissions standards diesel engines manufactured in the United States starting with the 2007 model year are the cleanest in the world.

#### EPA Standards

In 2000, the EPA established stringent standards designed to reduce emissions from on-road heavy-duty trucks and buses by up to 95 percent and to cut the allowable levels of sulfur in diesel

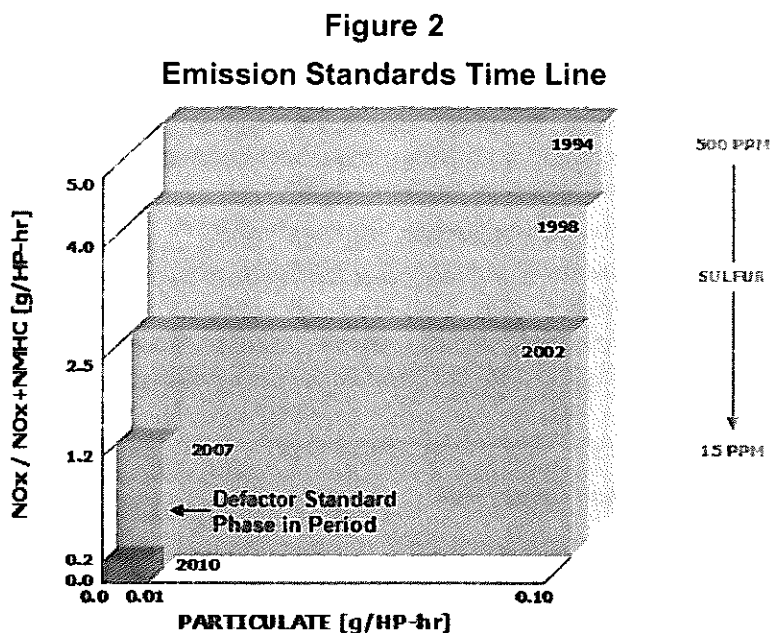
<sup>9</sup> Co-Collection vehicles have split bodies that allow for collection of two materials (e.g., trash and recyclables) in the same vehicle thereby reducing the number of vehicle trips per street segment.

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# Review of Trash Collection Impacts

fuel by 97 percent<sup>10</sup>. The EPA rule was the most significant mobile source initiative since the 1970 Clean Air Act Amendments establishing the U.S. Mobile Source Emission Control Program. Beginning with the 2007 model year, 100 percent of the on-road diesel heavy duty engines (HDEs) are required to use a diesel particulate filter and 50 percent of the engines are required to use nitrogen oxide (NOx) exhaust control technology. Beginning with the 2010 model year, 100 percent of the on-road heavy-duty diesel engines will require NOx exhaust technology.

Figure 2 below provides an illustration of the improvements in engine emissions that have occurred over the last 25 years. With the 2010 standards the emissions from model year 2010 HDE's will be a small fraction of what they were less than 10 years ago.



Source: <http://www.cumminswestport.com/products/emissions.php>

It is important to understand, however, is that these standards apply to engine manufacturers and not to fleet operators. There are no requirements that fleet operators, including trash haulers, comply with the standards within any specific time period. Relying

<sup>10</sup> As of 2006, refiners and importers nationwide are required to ensure that at least 80% of the volume of the highway diesel fuel they produce or import is ultra low sulfur diesel (ULSD) compliant. By 2009 95% of diesel fuel will have a sulfur limit of 15 parts per million (ppm). By December 1, 2010 100% of the diesel fuel sold will need to meet that limit. ULSD fuel enables the use of cleaner technology diesel engines and vehicles with advanced emission control devices, resulting in significant improved air quality.

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## Review of Trash Collection Impacts

solely on fleet turnover to achieve the full benefits of the new engine standards could take up to 20 years due to the reliability of diesel engines. In the meantime many of the older dirtier diesel engines will continue to remain in service.

### Natural Gas Vehicles

Natural gas engines offer the potential for significant reductions in trash truck emissions. Natural gas is also a secure, domestically produced fuel that reduces the demand for petroleum-based fuels and imported oil. Replacing 50% of the estimated 136,000 diesel trash trucks operating in the country with natural gas trucks would annually displace approximately 600 million gallons of diesel fuel, the equivalent of 14.3 million barrels of oil – a meaningful step toward energy security<sup>11</sup>. An added benefit is that natural gas engines are significantly quieter than diesel engines.

In the past four years the number of natural gas trucks in the United States has more than doubled, and nearly 700 natural gas garbage trucks are in operation today. By 2010 it is projected that over 2,200 natural gas garbage trucks will be operating in the US<sup>12</sup>. Two-thirds of the estimated 700 natural gas garbage trucks in operation in the US operate on liquid natural gas (LNG), while the rest use compressed natural gas (CNG).

Natural gas engines have already shown that they can meet the 2010 EPA emission requirements while also generating half the NOx emissions of 2010 compliant diesel engines. Natural gas trucks, however, produce lower torque (power), are heavier and take longer to fuel than diesel vehicles. While natural gas vehicles can cost substantially more than diesel, the new emission requirements and rising diesel fuel costs could erase the cost advantage that diesel trucks have had over natural gas.

A major impediment to natural gas trash trucks in the City is the lack of fueling infrastructure.

### Biodiesel

Biodiesel is clean burning alternative fuel, produced from domestic, renewable resources. Biodiesel contains no petroleum, but it can be blended at any level with petroleum diesel to create a biodiesel blend. It can also be used in compression-ignition (diesel) engines with little or no modifications. Biodiesel is biodegradable, nontoxic, and essentially free of sulfur and aromatics. Each of the licensed residential haulers reported that they have experimented with Biodiesel with mixed results. Problems with clogging of filters, jelling, cost and warranty issues were cited.

<sup>11</sup> INFORM; Greening Garbage Trucks: Trends in Alternative Fuel Use, 2002-2005.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

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# Review of Trash Collection Impacts

## Operate-at-idle Technology

Operate-at-idle technology can also reduce emissions. Operate-at-idle systems allow an engine to run at much lower revolutions per minute (RPM) and thus conserve diesel when compared with collection vehicles that do not have the technology. Operate-in-gear-at-idle systems save fuel by using a larger hydraulic pump that produces the extra flow of fluid needed for a trash collection vehicle to load and compact garbage at standard speeds while the engine remains at idle. Without the systems, truck operators must shift the transmission and throttle the engine to power the hydraulic system every time they make a route stop or want to pack the load. There is minimal effect on truck performance and fuel savings of as much as 20% have been attributed to operate-at-idle systems.<sup>13</sup> Operate-at-idle technology is generally standard on all new side loading equipment. Retrofitting existing vehicles can be done at a cost of from \$1,500 to \$10,000. Truck manufacturers are just starting to test operate-at-idle technology on rear- and front-loading vehicles.

An added advantage of operate-at-idle technology is that it significantly reduces engine noise. Most of the loud engine noise associated with garbage trucks comes from revving the engine to pack the load. With an operate-at-idle trash truck the hydraulic system is capable of packing without revving the engine and generating the associated engine noise.

## Automatic Engine Shut-Off Systems

Idling engines can burn up to one (1) gallon of fuel per hour. On-board engine controls can be installed that automatically cut off the engine after a set time period if a driver leaves it idling. Waste Connections, a national solid waste management firm, has installed automatic engine shut off devices on some of their vehicles that shut the engine down after five minutes of idling. This five minute standard is consistent with the proposed time frame in EPA's Model State Idling Law.

## Other Options

On the horizon, several other fuel and technologies are being tested in prototype vehicles including:

- Hybrid-electric drive trains
- Bio-methane (biofuels)

While these technologies may offer future benefits they have yet to be proven in a large scale commercial environment. Volvo, however, recently introduced the first hybrid garbage truck in Sweden. If testing goes well, Volvo plans to begin producing the

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<sup>13</sup> Ideal Idle Idea; K. Simpson, Waste Age, Sep 1, 2006 12:00 PM

## Review of Trash Collection Impacts

hybrid trucks in 2009. Volvo's hybrid technology consists of a 320 horsepower diesel engine which shuts down at rest combined with an electric motor that powers the truck at speeds up to 12 miles per hour. Regenerative braking is used as a means to recapture energy to recharge the lithium ion batteries. Besides being much quieter, gas savings and CO2 emission reductions on the order of 20-30 percent are expected.<sup>14</sup>

Waste Management Inc. has reported that it is exploring using waste methane (bio-methane) from its landfills as a fuel for trash trucks. The Orange County Transportation Authority in southern California is currently using methane from the county's landfills in a portion of its LNG fleet.

Reducing engine idle speeds, maintaining proper tire pressure, maintaining air filters and other steps can also be taken to improve fuel efficiency and minimize engine emissions.

### Analysis

As discussed above, with the 2010 EPA standards emissions from new diesel engines will be a fraction of what they were less than 10 years ago. When all trash trucks achieve compliance with those standards there will be a significant improvement in the emissions from trash trucks operating in the City. The most significant step the City can take to reduce trash truck emissions is, therefore, to establish a specific timeline for licensed haulers (residential and commercial) to bring their fleets into compliance with EPA's 2010 emission requirements. The State of California established such a timeline requiring fleet operators to bring their fleets into compliance with specific standards within a relatively short time frame). At a minimum the City could ban the registration of any truck prior to 1994, in order to remove some of the dirtiest, most polluting engines from the road. Idle-in-gear technology and automatic engine shut-off systems would also provide for additional emission reductions<sup>15</sup>.

While natural gas engines already meet the 2010 requirements the lack of local fueling infrastructure and other factors likely preclude this as a viable short- to medium-term option in the City. Also, while Biodiesel may offer some emission benefits, operational problems cited by some of the haulers will need to be addressed for this to represent a reliable long term option.

Implementing a Districted Collection System or City-Wide Contract for Services would also be expected to reduce overall vehicle

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<sup>14</sup> Volvo introduces first hybrid garbage truck, works on DME fuel, *Posted Apr 8th 2008 11:41AM by Jeremy Korzeniewski; www.autobloggreen.com.*

<sup>15</sup> This could then be followed by an ongoing graduated compliance schedule that would ban vehicles prior to 1998, 2002 and 2007 over some reasonable time frame.

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# Review of Trash Collection Impacts

emissions as a result of the reduction in the number of residential trash collection vehicle miles traveled. As illustrated in Table 1 above, it is estimated that residential trash trucks operating in the City generated as much as 200 to 300 tons per year of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions annually, in addition to nitrogen oxide and particulates. These emissions might be reduced by as much as half with a Districted Collection System or City-Wide Contract for Services.

## Options / Recommendations

- ✓ ***Work with the haulers to develop a schedule for fleet compliance with the 2010 EPA Emission Standards;***
- ✓ Prohibit the use of any truck with an engine older than model year 1994 in the City;
- ✓ Require operate-at-idle technology on all new vehicles; require existing vehicles to be retrofitted;
- ✓ Require installation of automatic engine shut-offs and mandate shut down after a set number of minutes of idling (e.g., 5 minutes consistent with EPA's Model State Idling Law);
- ✓ Encourage hauler use of synthetic oils, effective tire maintenance programs and other fuel saving measures;
- ✓ Limit the number of residential and commercial licenses (e.g., issue no more than the current number);
- ✓ Require natural gas vehicles if the necessary fueling infrastructure can be developed;
- ✓ Evaluate opportunities for other alternate fuel / alternate technology vehicles (e.g., hybrid electric drive trains) as they become commercially viable; and
- ✓ ***Implement a Districted Collection System or City-Wide Contract for Services to reduce the number of residential trash collection vehicle miles traveled and the associated vehicle emissions:***
  - ***Require EPA 2010 Emission Standard compliant vehicles as a condition of the award of districts;***
  - Require operate-at-idle technology on residential vehicles as a condition of the award of the districts; and
  - Require use of County Landfill to reduce vehicle miles traveled.

## Neighborhood Aesthetics

### Background / Overview

The appearance of a neighborhood is impacted by trash collection services both with respect to the presence of containers and the vehicles providing collection services. Under an open competition

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## Review of Trash Collection Impacts

system adjacent residents collection schedules may vary resulting in containers placed at the curbside for collection on multiple days of the week. Additionally, containers currently come in all shapes and sizes and differing colors and bags are also used. Under a districted system, all services would typically be provided on the same day in a given neighborhood so streets are free of trash and recycling containers six days out of the week. Containers can also be standardized to provide a more uniform appearance.

The City currently has few if any permit requirements related to the appearance and condition of trash collection vehicles. Standards can be established regardless of the collection system structure related to, among other things:

- Cleaning and maintaining vehicles so that they present a "clean, professional and new-like appearance";
- Minimizing vehicle oil, fuel and other fluid spills; and
- Controlling litter.

### Analysis

#### Collection Days

Unless the City were to pursue a districted collection system or require that all collection operations under the current open competition system occur on a specific day in each neighborhood (i.e., districted service days) it is likely that many neighborhoods will continue to have multiple trash service days. Should the City implement districted collection, however, collection services could be limited to one day per week.

#### Standardizing Containers

Districted collection would also allow for standardizing residential trash collection containers. In which case the City could own the containers and have the City logo rather than the haulers logo on the containers. Regardless of the collection system structure the City could provide for the universal roll-out<sup>16</sup> of City-owned standardized single stream recycling containers.

#### Cleaning and Painting Trucks

The City's municipal code does not specify any requirements for cleaning and painting trash trucks or commercial containers or any other requirements related to aesthetics including controlling litter and vehicle spills. Such requirements are standard in many franchise agreements and contracts and to lesser degrees license requirements. The City of Lone Tree's recent residential solid waste collection agreement with Pro Disposal specifies, among other things that the contractor shall use *"vehicles that are*

<sup>16</sup> All residential accounts would be provided with a recycling container rather than needing to request one. Any customer not wishing to participate would need to specifically request to "opt-out".

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# Review of Trash Collection Impacts

*maintained in a clean, first-class manner” and that vehicles “shall be thoroughly washed not less than once each week and shall be repainted as necessary.”*

## Options / Recommendations

- ✓ ***Establish vehicle cleaning and painting requirements as a condition of the required license (see Appendix A for sample language);***
- ✓ Establish performance standards related to controlling litter, spills etc. (see Appendix A for sample language);
- ✓ Provide universal roll-out of City-owned standardized single stream recycling containers with City logo (see Appendix A for sample contract language); and
- ✓ ***Implement a Districted Collection System or City-Wide Contract for Services to reduce the number of trash trucks on residential streets, the number of days per week collection service occurs and allow for standardizing trash containers:***
  - ***Roll-out City-owned standardized wheeled trash containers with City logo.***

## Noise

### Background / Overview

Noise from trash trucks can be related to a number of factors including:

- Engine noise;
- Backing alarms;
- Noise at Point of Collection (Dumping of material such as glass in curbside recycling systems); and
- Dumping commercial bins.

The specific strategies and options to reduce those noise impacts depend in large part on the source of the noise. Some jurisdictions have established specific noise standards (e.g., decibel ratings within a specified distance from the vehicle) that haulers must comply with during collection operations.

### Analysis

#### Engine Noise

Engine noise associated with residential trash trucks is largely related to revving of the engine when the vehicle is packing. Diesel garbage trucks can generate noise levels of up to 100 decibels. Two of the most significant options available to reduce trash truck engine noise are:

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## Review of Trash Collection Impacts

- Converting to either a compressed natural gas (CNG) or liquefied natural gas (LNG) engine; and
- Using "operate-at-idle" technology<sup>17</sup>.

In addition to the above options, a well built, tight fitting, well maintained vehicle can also help reduce noise.

A study in the Netherlands found there were noise reductions with natural gas vehicles of 90% inside the truck, 98% beside the truck and 50% behind the truck compared to diesel powered vehicles.<sup>18</sup> As mentioned above, a major impediment to the use of natural gas trash trucks in Fort Collins is the lack of required fueling infrastructure.

As discussed previously, in addition to fuel savings operate-at-idle technology also significantly reduces engine noise. Most of the loud engine noise associated with garbage trucks comes from revving the engine to pack the load. With an operate-at-idle trash truck there is a separate hydraulic system on the truck body. This separate hydraulic system provides the pressure needed to pack the load without revving the engine and generating the associated engine noise.

### Backing Alarms (Beepers)

Vehicle backing and noise associated with vehicle backing alarms are most often associated with commercial collection activities. Placing limits on commercial collection activities near residential neighborhoods can help address related noise issues. "Smart" back-up alarms can also be used. These alarms sense the level of ambient noise and adjust accordingly. In quiet conditions the alarm beeps at a much quieter level.

### Noise at Point of Collection

Noise at the point of collection (i.e., emptying containers) can be reduced by taking various actions to reduce engine noise, as discussed above. In addition, efforts to reduce noise associated with the dumping of materials, particularly glass recovered through the curbside program can also be taken. These include commingling of glass with other recyclable materials, reducing dump heights and potentially eliminating glass from the curbside program.

Overall noise associated with residential collection operations at the point of collection would not be reduced under a districted collection system since it does not reduce the number of pickups,

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<sup>17</sup> With non operate-at-idle vehicles the engines need to rev when the body is packing. With an operate at idle vehicle there is an hydraulic system on the body which is capable of providing the hydraulic pressures need to pack without revving the engine, which creates noise.

<sup>18</sup> Ahhhh...the Peaceful Sounds of Garbage Trucks; N. Stiles; MSW Management May/June 2007.

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# Review of Trash Collection Impacts

only the number of vehicles making those pickups. The noise produced in transit from point-to-point would be reduced however due to fewer vehicles. The noise associated with collection operations would also be limited to a specific day and time in each neighborhood.

## Dumping Commercial Bins

Dumping of commercial bins can be very noisy and particularly noticeable in the early morning hours. A number of options are available to reduce the noise associated with commercial collection activities including<sup>19</sup>:

- Treating lid supports with sound-deadening material - Lid supports are small metal arms that are anchored on one end which can be rotated to support the lid in an open position. During dumping the arm swings freely and can strike other metal objects;
- Treating the containers with sound-deadening materials - The reverberation of the sides of metal containers creates loud noises;
- Treating the forks of trucks with sound-deadening material - A great deal of noise is generated by the metal forks used to pick up the containers within the sleeves on the container;
- Using plastic lids or plastic dumpsters where the Fire Marshall will allow their use;
- Promoting the use of larger storage containers and reduced collection frequency; and
- Encouraging "Best Practices" training for drivers - Driver behavior is one of the single most important factors affecting noise generation.

## Time of Collection

Section 15.421 of the City's Municipal Code states that, "*No collector shall operate any vehicle for the purpose of collection of solid waste or recyclable materials on any street designated by the City as "local residential" or "local collector" between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. (the "Nighttime Hours")*". Time restrictions placed on residential collection activities are common. Some jurisdictions also limit the time of commercial collection activities, which by their nature are noisy, within a specified distance of residential neighborhoods (e.g., not before 7:00 a.m.

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<sup>19</sup> Report and Recommendations of the Noise Review Board on Reducing Nighttime Noise from Garbage and Recycling Collection; September 8, 2005, City of Portland Noise Review Board Subcommittee on Garbage Collection.

## Review of Trash Collection Impacts

within 200 feet of a residential area). The City's municipal code does not place any limits on the time of commercial collection.

### Vehicle Maintenance

Effective vehicle maintenance can also reduce noise. Assuring that vehicles are well built, tight-fitting and well maintained will help reduce vehicle noise.

### **Options / Recommendations**

- ✓ ***Establish noise standards that are to be met by all haulers as a condition of their license and require haulers to verify and report on compliance with those standards. (see Appendix A for sample language);***
- ✓ Require operate-at-idle technology on all new vehicles; require existing vehicles to be retrofitted;
- ✓ Require natural gas vehicles if the necessary infrastructure can be developed;
- ✓ Require "Smart" back-up alarms;
- ✓ Remove glass from the curbside recycling program;
- ✓ Require various steps to be taken to reduce the noise generated by the collection of commercial containers near residential areas (e.g., treating containers, lid supports and truck forks with sound deadening materials; using plastic lids or dumpsters);
- ✓ Limit the time commercial collection activities can occur within a specified distance of residential areas (see Appendix A for sample contract language);
- ✓ Require vehicles to be well maintained; and
- ✓ ***Implement a Districted Collection System or City-Wide Contract for Services to reduce the number of trash trucks on a typical residential street and vehicle miles traveled:***
  - ***Require operate-at-idle technology on residential vehicles as a condition of the award of the districts.***

## Safety

### **Background / Overview**

Solid waste operations can pose safety risks to employees and the general public. The consideration of "Safety First" is central to an effective solid waste management operation as safe operations enhance productivity and profitability.

According to the Department of Labor Statistics, Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors have the one of the most dangerous job in the country with a fatality rate approximately 10

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# Review of Trash Collection Impacts

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times the national average. A University of Miami study found that the leading cause of on-the-job fatalities for refuse and recyclable material collectors is impatient motorists who try to pass the garbage truck and hit the collector.

Trash collection activities also result in interaction with the general public and as such generate the potential for public safety issues. Efforts to reduce those interactions (e.g., districted collection), make the public more aware of collection vehicles and drivers (e.g., signage, lights) and provide drivers with additional training and tools to provide for safer collection operations (e.g., video recorders) all contribute to increasing public safety as it relates to trash collection services.

## Industry Safety Initiatives

Waste Management Inc., the largest solid waste services provider in the country, has a model "Mission to Zero" plan and has significantly reduced worker injuries since the model was implemented. Allied Waste Industries, the second largest solid waste provider in the country, has paid particular attention to vehicle safety, including adding or replacing all incandescent lights with LED's and additional LED strobe lights on each side and the front of the vehicles. As a result of these and other actions Allied's accident rate declined approximately 20 percent in each of the first three years following implementation and driver feedback has been very positive.

## Slow Down to Get Around Safety Campaign

Jurisdictions throughout the country have adopted the "Slow Down to get Around" safety campaign to enhance the visibility of the collection vehicles and have dramatically reduced rear-ending accidents.<sup>20</sup> The program is designed to raise safety awareness when passing utility, waste and service vehicles. The aim is to encourage drivers to use the same amount of caution as when passing a school bus, emergency vehicle or road construction crew.

## Fully Automated Vehicles

The use of fully-automated vehicles can greatly contribute to worker safety. Automated collection eliminates the constant manual lifting of cans and bags associated with manual collection systems and is more efficient than semi-automated collection. Automated collection uses wheeled carts that are lifted by a mechanical arm on the side of the truck. The driver controls the entire collection process without leaving the drivers seat. Automated systems have been shown to result in decreased workers compensation costs and allow experienced older (often

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<sup>20</sup> See [http://www.rumpke.com/Our\\_Commitment/Safety.asp](http://www.rumpke.com/Our_Commitment/Safety.asp) for more information on the Slow Down to get Around safety campaign.

## Review of Trash Collection Impacts

safer) workers and others who might not be able to effectively function in a manual system to remain on the job.

### DriveCam

DriveCam is an exception based video event recorder that is mounted on the windshield behind the rearview mirror and captures sights and sounds inside and outside the vehicle. Exceptional forces such as hard braking, swerving, collision, etc. cause the recorder to save critical seconds of audio and video footage immediately before and after the triggered event. DriveCam reports that its video system and safety program has reduced vehicle damages, workers' compensation and personal injury costs by 30 to 90 percent in more than 70,000 commercial and government vehicles around the world. Waste Connections, the nation's fourth largest collection company recently announced that it has begun implementing the DriveCam solution nationally across all major business lines in all four geographic regions.<sup>21</sup> GPS systems can also be used to identify risky driver behavior and other activities to improve safety and is becoming more widely used in many parts of the solid waste industry.

### **Analysis**

It is in the interest of the haulers to operate safely and it is assumed that they are dedicating appropriate care and attention to safety and safety related issues. The City may, however, be able to enhance overall hauler safety by establishing certain safety related requirements as a condition of the hauler license. This could include requiring haulers not to overload vehicles and assuring that all vehicles are specified with certain safety equipment (e.g., ABS braking systems, strobe lights, reverse motion sensors). Appendix B contains a list of various trash truck safety devices that the City may wish to consider encouraging/requiring the haulers to use. It is suggested that any consideration of requiring certain vehicle specifications related to safety be done in conjunction with the haulers to assure that any such requirements are reasonable, appropriate and provide meaningful benefit.

### **Options / Recommendations**

- ✓ ***Require that haulers not load vehicles in excess of manufacturer's recommendations or limitations imposed by state or local vehicle weight restrictions. Require haulers to implement an ongoing monitoring program to assure compliance with that requirement (see Appendix A for sample contract language);***

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<sup>21</sup> <http://www.drivecam.com>

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## Review of Trash Collection Impacts

- ✓ Work with haulers to develop appropriate and effective safety specifications for all new vehicles (e.g., rear and side strobe lights) and a timeline for retrofitting existing vehicles as a condition of the hauler license (see Appendix A for sample contract language);
- ✓ Require haulers to participate in City sponsored/initiated "Slow Down to Get Around" safety campaign; and
- ✓ ***Implement a Districted Collection System or City-Wide Contract for Services to minimize vehicle miles traveled:***
  - Require fully-automated vehicles;
  - Require vehicles to have appropriate optional safety equipment; and
  - Establish safety incentives (e.g., sliding scale profit ratio based on safety record).

### Other Vehicle Street Maintenance Impacts

As part of the analysis of trash truck impacts we evaluated the impacts of trash trucks relative to other types of vehicles, including delivery trucks and buses. Table 3 below provides a comparison of the average ESAL's for the various vehicle types noted<sup>22</sup> to the estimated ESAL's of residential trash and recycling trucks operating in the City. The impacts are also presented in Passenger Car Equivalents.

**Table 3**

| COMPARISON OF TRASH AND OTHER VEHICLE IMPACTS |                            |                 |                            |                           |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Vehicle Type                                  |                            | Number of Axles | ESAL Factor <sup>(1)</sup> | Passenger Car Equivalents |
| General Classification                        | AASHTO Classification      |                 |                            |                           |
| Cars                                          | Passenger Cars             | 2               | 0.0008                     | 1                         |
| Vans/Pickups                                  | Other 2-Axle/4-Tire Trucks | 2               | 0.0052                     | 7                         |
| Large Pickups / Delivery Vans                 | Panel and Pickup Trucks    | 3               | 0.0122                     | 15                        |
| Large Delivery Trucks                         | 3 or More Axle Trucks      | 3               | 0.1303                     | 163                       |
| Local Delivery Trucks                         | 2-Axle/6-Tire Trucks       | 2               | 0.1890                     | 236                       |
| <b>Residential Recycling Trucks</b>           |                            | <b>2</b>        | <b>0.2190</b>              | <b>274</b>                |
| Buses                                         | Buses                      | 2 or 3          | 0.6806                     | 851                       |
| <b>Residential Trash Trucks</b>               |                            | <b>3</b>        | <b>1.0230</b>              | <b>1,279</b>              |
| Long Haul Semi-Trailers                       | Various Classifications    | 3 - 5+          | 1.1264                     | 1,408                     |

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<sup>22</sup> Based on sample data reported by American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Guide for Design of Pavement Structures.

## Review of Trash Collection Impacts

As shown, residential trash trucks have an estimated impact equivalent to approximately 1,300 passenger cars. This is comparable to the findings of other studies that we have conducted as well as that reported by various independent third parties (Appendix C). The impact of recycling trucks is much less but still significant, and roughly equivalent to the impact of local delivery trucks<sup>23</sup>. One point to note is that the impact of large delivery trucks (3 or more axles) is approximately two-thirds that of local delivery trucks (2-axle / 6 Tire Trucks) based on the sample population. This tends to support the positive benefit additional axles can have on lowering overall vehicle impacts.

In reviewing this comparison it is important to note that the impacts shown are based on a random sampling of vehicles. There can be wide variability of impacts within the general vehicle types noted. As an example a larger local delivery truck hauling construction materials, heavy furniture or food supplies may have a significantly greater impact than a smaller local delivery truck hauling overnight packages.

### Impact of Overloaded Vehicles

#### Background / Overview

The impact that a vehicle exerts on a section of pavement is related to the vehicle's axle weights. As axle weight increases the impact increases at a rate much greater than proportionally. As such, overweight vehicles exert a significantly greater pavement maintenance impact than that same vehicle at or below its legal weight, in addition to presenting a potential safety hazard.

#### Analysis

A trash truck operating at one (1) ton over a legal payload of 10 tons (10% overweight) exerts an impact approximately 50% more than a vehicle loaded to its legal weight. That same vehicle operating at two (2) tons (20% overweight) over its legal payload exerts an impact approximately 100% higher than when loaded to its legal weight<sup>24</sup>.

The fact that the Larimer County Landfill, and certain other neighboring landfills, do not have scales and charge haulers based on volume presents a potential incentive for haulers to maximize vehicle payloads. This may foster the overloading of vehicles. While this potential may exist, it does not necessarily

<sup>23</sup> Our projection of recycling truck impacts is based on the smaller non-compacting vehicles that two of the haulers are currently using. It is certainly conceivable that larger compacting vehicles could be used for collection of single stream recyclables in the future with a much larger associated impact.

<sup>24</sup> Source: AASHTO Guide for Design of Pavement Structures.

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## Review of Trash Collection Impacts

mean that haulers are overloading their vehicles, which can cause increased vehicle wear-and-tear. One of the haulers reported having recently completed a route audit that included weighing vehicles and modifying routes in an effort to ensure legal payloads.

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## Review of Diversion Issues

This section provides an evaluation of the following diversion issues:

- Diversion Rate Metrics and Measurements;
- Current Policies, Practices and Programs; and
- Current Recycling Efforts.

### Evaluation of Diversion Rate Metrics and Measurements

#### **Background / Overview**

Fort Collins is one of the leaders in recycling in the State of Colorado. The City's current diversion rate is estimated at 27% and it has adopted a diversion goal of 50% by 2010. The City has undertaken a range of programs and policies in support of its recycling efforts including a Pay-As-You-Throw (rate structure) ordinance and the requirement that licensed haulers provide recycling services to residential accounts upon request. The City completed a *5-Year Strategic Plan: Strategies to Reach 50% Diversion from Landfill Disposal* (Strategic Plan) in 2006. That Plan evaluated a wide range of options to increase diversion resulting in Phase 1 and Phase II Strategic Plan Staff recommendations, which are provided in Appendix D.

While the City currently tracks an overall Citywide diversion rate, it does not regularly track and report diversion by waste stream (residential, commercial, roll-off), program (e.g., curbside recycling) or by licensed hauler.

#### **Analysis**

##### Diversion Calculation Limitations

An important component of the City's efforts to increase diversion is the availability of complete and accurate data to allow it to accurately track tonnages diverted and disposed. There is, however, a limitation to the City's ability to accurately calculate its diversion rate. The Larimer County Landfill, and other neighboring landfills used by the licensed haulers do not have scales. Tonnage is estimated by multiplying the volume of the vehicle by a density factor established by each licensed hauler. In recent Tonnage Summary Reports the three licensed residential haulers reported density factors of 500, 750 and 900 pounds per cubic yard. Changes to those estimates would materially impact the calculated disposal tonnages and the City's calculated diversion rate. The lack of scales at the landfills places a relatively high degree of uncertainty on the City's disposal data and the associated calculated diversion rates.

## Section 3

### Review of Diversion Issues

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## Waste Collection Rates

Residents in cities with organized collection typically pay lower rates or have higher levels of service or both. Haulers realize savings through economies of scale by serving every household in a geographic area. Those savings result in lower rates or increased services.

### 96-Gallon Garbage Service Per Month

Other cities rates include recycling and taxes

| Little Canada                                                    | North St. Paul                                        | Roseville                                                                               | Vadnais Heights                                                                                                                                                                                     | White Bear Lake                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| \$23.15                                                          | \$27.84                                               | Total = \$28.35<br>\$19.15 (average of all haulers)<br>\$1.96 recycling<br>\$7.24 taxes | \$18.24                                                                                                                                                                                             | \$17.70                             |
| Includes curbside collection of up to three bulky items annually | Includes unlimited curbside collection of bulky items | Does not include fuel surcharges or other fees.                                         | Includes one free bulky item pickup. The hauler consortium also contributes \$125/month into a promotions fund for city use. Also offer discount rates for seniors and every other week collection. | Also offers discounted senior rate. |

FW Hauler market share

From: Tim Pratt  
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2009 1:11 PM  
To: Bill Malinen; Duane Schwartz  
Subject: FW: Hauler market share

FYI

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From: Wozniak, Joe [mailto:joe.wozniak@CO.RAMSEY.MN.US]  
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2009 3:53 PM  
To: Tim Pratt  
Subject: Hauler market share

Tim -

Here are the residential account numbers for Roseville as reported by haulers in their license application forms:

| Hauler Name | # Accounts | % of Total |
|-------------|------------|------------|
| Ace         | 125        | 1.9%       |
| Allied      | 750        | 11.2%      |
| Gene's      | 231        | 3.5%       |
| Horrigan    | 114        | 1.7%       |
| Veolia      | 464        | 7.0%       |
| Walter's    | 3,500      | 52.5%      |
| Waste Mgmt  | 1,487      | 22.3%      |
| TOTAL       | 6,671      |            |

With the exception of one hauler's figures, the account numbers come from the 2009-10 hauler license applications, which were submitted between April and July of 2009. The exception is for Gene's, who did not give account figures, so I took their county-wide account total and multiplied it by the percentage of county residents living in Roseville, for an estimate.

Joe Wozniak

Environmental Health Section

St. Paul - Ramsey County Dept. of Public Health

Phone: 651-266-1187

FAX: 651-266-1177

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## **Survey results – Open market cities**

### No limits on number of licenses:

Brooklyn Park (currently has 8)

Mounds View

Bloomington (6)

Edina (5) – has “glanced” at limiting; would freeze at current number if they did

Fridley

Roseville (6)

Eden Prairie

Shorewood (7)

Apple Valley (5)

Burnsville (5)

Minnetonka (6)

Maple Grove (9)

Plymouth (9)

### Cities that limit residential hauling licenses:

Cottage Grove – 3

Oakdale – 5

Lakeville – 6

St. Michael – 6

Rosemount – Put a cap (8) on licenses at the end of 2008, when ordinance was updated.

Automatically reduces number if hauler goes out of business.

Eagan – 7 (Web site lists 6 haulers, however)

West St. Paul – 6 (They shrink the number as companies go out of business.)

Apple Valley ordinance (just amended to create hauling zones/days):

Each licensee shall submit a monthly report to the city that identifies separately the weight, in tons, of refuse, recyclables, yard waste and special pick-up materials that were collected by the licensee from Apple Valley sources. The report must be provided on or before the fifteenth day of the month following the month being reported, and shall be on a form provided by the city. The report shall also identify the weight of each type of collected recyclable derived via actual weighing of each individual material or through the application of recyclable waste stream percentages acceptable to Dakota County. The report shall include a summary, including receipts, of all revenues derived by the collector for each targeted recyclable material market during the month. The report shall distinguish residential collection tonnage from commercial/ industrial tonnage and shall also include a brief description of the methodology used in computing the reported weights. The city reserves the right to request additional relevant information from the licensee as deemed necessary in order to plan for and evaluate its waste disposal system;

A license fee as specified in the appendix to Chapter 35, based on the number of vehicles to be used by the applicant in applicant's operations under the license, shall accompany the application and, upon granting of the license, the fee shall be deposited in the general fund.

#### Notes from Rosemount:

1. Until this year Rosemount did not limit the number of residential licenses we would issue. Anyone who had a truck, insurance, and \$320 could get a license. At the end of last year the City Council updated our waste hauling ordinance to put a cap on the number of residential licenses we issue.
2. That cap is the current number of licenses, eight. This is for residential haulers only. We do not now and do not intend to limit commercial licenses. When the economy turns around we will have a lot of construction going on and many firms license just to handle construction and remodeling debris. So we do not expect to limit these haulers.
3. According to the Met Council, there were 7,104 households in Rosemount in 2007, the last year for which information is available.
4. Yes, when the Ordinance was revised, the following language was included:

Limitations On Licensing: The city council, in the interest of maintaining healthful and sanitary conditions in the city, hereby reserves the right to specify and assign certain areas to all licensees, and to limit the number of licenses issued. The council finds that by reducing the number of collection vehicle trips through a neighborhood, the neighborhood will be more safe for children and pedestrians, the amount of wear on the street surface will be reduced, and the total amount of emissions produced by the collection vehicles will decrease.

Only haulers licensed as of the effective date hereof will be allowed to renew their license. When a hauler leaves the industry or merges with another hauler, the total number of residential hauling licenses available in Rosemount will automatically be reduced.

5. As you can see, there is no set numerical limit to the number of licenses we issue. Anyone who currently has a license will be allowed to continue getting a license. But we did introduce a method to reduce the number we issue over time as firms merge or leave the business.
6. Like I said, anyone who currently has a license will be allowed to re-license.
7. So far, no one has challenged us but this ordinance was revised after the 2009 hauling licenses were issued. So the fall of 2009 when we re-license for 2010 would be the first time anyone might challenge this. We don't expect any since we have been pretty liberal in the past most anyone that wanted to work in our city is already here.

8. No, we will not allow a transfer of a license. If a hauler sells his company, that is our opportunity to actually reduce the number we allow.

West Saint Paul:

Subd. 4. Rubbish Hauling License.

a. Residential License. No person may haul, collect, or transport rubbish from residences, other than the person's own residence, within the City without a residential hauler's license pursuant to City Code Section 1005. The Council may impose conditions to the license at any time for cause or violations of any of the conditions of this Section. The City will issue no more than six residential haulers licenses at any time.

Cottage Grove:

Allows three, but Tennis owns two of the licenses, so there are essentially two companies hauling residential trash. No limits on commercial licenses.

The City Council considered increasing the number of licenses to four a few years ago, but rejected the idea, based on the added truck traffic in neighborhoods and wear and tear on the roadways.

Eagan:

C. The council, in the interest of maintaining healthful and sanitary conditions in the city, hereby reserves the right to specify and assign certain areas to all licensees, and to limit the number of licenses issued. The council shall issue no more than seven single-family-multiple dwelling-individual household service hauling licenses.

No license shall be transferable between persons or entities. Any change in individual or corporate ownership or substitution in partners shall constitute a transfer and shall automatically terminate the license. Upon the termination of a license as a result of change of ownership as provided herein, a license application of the new hauler shall be granted license approval preference over any other license applicant, provided the hauler makes application within 30 days of the license termination and the hauler meets all conditions and regulations for licensing as required herein. If the licensee's name changes and the change is not due to change of ownership during the period of the license within 30 days of the name change, a new application for license must be submitted to the city and subsequently approved by the city in order for license to remain in effect.

J. All single family/multiple dwelling-individual household service hauling licenses shall be subject to the licensee providing single family/multiple dwelling-individual household hauling services to not less than 250 residential households in the city, with their own equipment, excluding multiple dwelling units which fall within the definition of commercial/multiple dwelling-commingled service hauling. The licensee shall file with the city clerk by the end of each calendar year a written certification of compliance with this paragraph on a form provided by the city. The licensee shall make available for inspection upon request, a list of all single family/multiple dwelling-individual household service accounts, by address, within the city. If the licensee fails to provide proof of providing single family/multiple dwelling-individual household service hauling services to households as required herein by the end of the calendar year, (December 31 of all years), the license shall automatically terminate.

1. Single family/multiple dwelling-individual household service hauling licensees rates shall include a minimum of three levels of regular service, priced on the basis of volume or weight with a rate structure designed to encourage reduction, re-usage and recycling.



## Administration Department

# Memo

**To:** Duane Schwartz, Public Works Director

**From:** Tim Pratt, Recycling Coordinator

**Date:** January 22, 2010

**Re:** Public input on garbage service

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Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission members indicated that they wanted to gather public input on garbage service. So you asked me to detail various options that could be used to do that.

### **Mail survey**

Roseville is developing a mail survey to gauge residents' assessment of various city services. Staff will be using a survey template developed by the International City/County Management Association. Questions about garbage service could be blended into the survey. However, since the survey will be covering numerous city services, the number of questions about garbage service would be limited. Staff would use the same method to identify participants as was used in the 2002 survey thus ensuring the survey results would be statistically valid. Staff has not identified a time period for the survey.

### **Focus group**

A focus group is a sample of approximately 20 people who would be invited to gather and talk about garbage issues. Focus groups generate qualitative data rather than quantitative data. The session is run by a facilitator and the small group setting allows participants to speak in greater depth about a topic.

### **Open meeting**

The public could be invited to come in and speak at an open meeting. Typically turn out is light unless there is an issue that has a direct physical or emotional impact on the resident. For instance, for the past few years the City Council has dedicated a portion of one meeting for residents to talk about budget concerns. It has been promoted through the website and the Roseville Review. Turnout has been five or fewer people each year. On the other hand, neighborhood development hearings at the Planning Commission tend to have higher turnout. For instance, the public hearing for the proposed telecommunications tower in Acorn Park had approximately 30 neighbors attend. Neighbors are notified by postcard of the public hearing.

### **Online survey**

Roseville can promote an online survey form for residents to fill out – printed copies can be made available as well. This option is currently being used by the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan committee. It provides residents an opportunity to respond without having to speak in public or appear at a public meeting on a specific date at a specific time. The survey would not face the same space limitations as with the mailed survey. Because respondents are self-selected the results are not statistically valid. We would use certain precautions to inhibit one respondent from answering multiple times, but could not prevent it.

# TwinCities.com

## Maplewood braces for trash talk as centralized hauling considered

By Sarah Horner  
shorner@pioneerpress.com

Updated: 02/15/2011 11:32:14 PM CST

Maplewood is gearing up for a debate over who should take out the trash.

In an effort to cut costs for road improvements and rates for residents, the Maplewood City Council is considering switching to a city-controlled trash-collection system. Residents now choose from among nine licensed garbage collectors, but city officials say there could be advantages to cutting that to as few as one.

Local trash haulers are worried such a move would hurt business. Meanwhile, residents have expressed concerns about losing the right to choose who touches their trash.

"For whatever reason, people like their hauler, and they want to keep it that way," council member Marvin Koppen said.

About 150 people turned out for a meeting on the topic in October and similar numbers are expected at a March hearing, said Shann Finwall, environmental planner for Maplewood. The city council will listen to opinions before deciding whether to call for further study on changing trash collection.

Past attempts to do so in Maplewood have been met

with such a public outcry that council members retreated, Finwall said.

"The hauling community gets people totally up in arms about the loss of freedom and scares of government takeover," she said. "It makes a city's attempt to do anything really difficult."

Residents aren't always aware of the potential benefits of buying services in bulk and reducing the number of trucks on the road, Finwall said.

According to a 2009 study by the

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, residents in cities with organized trash systems like the one Maplewood is considering paid 19 percent to 53 percent less for trash collection than those in cities without them. Studies also indicate benefits to the environment, Finwall added.

Some of Maplewood's neighbors have made the switch, including Little Canada, North St. Paul, White Bear Lake and Vadnais Heights.

"We had some concerns about this being a form of communism in the beginning, but most people seem satisfied now ... and we know we get better rates," said Joel Hanson, Little Canada city administrator.

Little Canada splits its city into sections to allow multiple haulers the chance to be involved and lessen any harm on the hauling industry, a key concern of Willie Tennis, co-owner of Tennis Sanitation, a garbage collector in the Maplewood area.

Tennis said he's worried his local business won't be able to be competitive in the bidding.

"The big companies can afford to cut their rates because they can make it up in other places," Tennis

# TwinCities.com

said. "We can't do that."

The National Association of Solid Waste sent a mailing to drum up support for haulers at the last meeting, and Tennis said he expects a similar turnout for the March 28 hearing.

"It's just garbage, you'd think," he said, "but people are really funny when it comes to their garbage hauler."

Sarah Horner can be reached at 651-228-5539.

Agenda Item H.1.

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** James Antonen, City Manager  
**FROM:** Shann Finwall, AICP, Environmental Planner  
 Steve Kummer, Engineer  
 Chuck Ahl, Assistant City Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing to Consider the Adoption of a Resolution of Intent to Organize  
 Trash Collection  
**DATE:** March 22, 2011 for the March 28 City Council Meeting

**INTRODUCTION**

On February 28, 2011, the City Council scheduled a public hearing for March 28, 2011, to consider the adoption of a resolution of intent to organize trash collection. Minnesota Statute, Section 115A.94 (Organized Collection) sets the process a city must follow when considering organized trash collection. The adoption of a resolution of intent to organize trash collection is the beginning step in a planning process and will initiate additional public participation. All trash collection system options will be evaluated, including evaluation of the city's current open trash collection system for potential improvements.

**DISCUSSION****Goals**

During the February 28, 2011, City Council meeting staff recommended that the City Council rank the eight main goals identified by the Environmental and Natural Resources (ENR) Commission and City Council for an organized trash collection system. Four City Councilmembers submitted their ranked goals, ranking the most important goal as number 1 and least important goal as number 8. The numbers were added to create the following overall goal ranking:

| <u>Main Goal</u>    | <u>Score</u> |
|---------------------|--------------|
| 1. Economic         | 7            |
| 2. Service          | 8            |
| 3. Environmental    | 11           |
| 4. Safety           | 17           |
| 5. Efficiency       | 22           |
| 6. Planning Process | 25           |
| 7. Aesthetics       | 27           |
| 8. Hauler Impacts   | 27           |

The City Council should refer to these goals as the city moves forward with the evaluation of trash collection system options. A full list of the ranked goals and objectives can be found on Attachment 1.

**What Does it Mean to Consider Organized Trash Collection?**

Citizens: Save money. This is the City Council's number one goal for an organized trash collection system.

Trash Haulers: A method of managing waste. The City Council will evaluate all methods of managing waste, including evaluation of the city's current open trash hauling system for potential improvements.

Environmental Issues: Fewer trash hauling trucks creates less pollution.

For Public Safety and Infrastructure: Fewer trash hauling trucks in our neighborhoods will be better for our roads and safer for citizens than more trucks.

### **Minnesota Pollution Control Agency**

Throughout the city's review of trash collection, the ENR Commission and City Council referred to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) 2009 collection system study. The study, Analysis of Waste Collection Service Arrangements (2009), offered expert analysis of open versus organized trash collection systems. MPCA staff has submitted a letter to the Mayor which further explains the study and MPCA's position on organized collection (Attachment 2). In summary, based on the study MPCA recognizes that organized collection can offer environmental benefits, economic opportunities, and operational efficiencies to cities in the metro area.

### **Trash Hauler Comments**

Maplewood has 15 licensed trash haulers doing business in the city in 2011. Nine of those haulers service residential homes. Of the nine residential haulers, two have notified the city that they are not opposed to the city's efforts to organize trash collection – Waste Management and Veolia Environmental Services. The e-mail correspondence from these haulers is attached (Attachments 3 and 4).

### **City Public Hearing Notification**

In order to meet state statute and city ordinance notification requirements for the March 28, 2011, public hearing, city staff has submitted a public hearing notice to the St. Paul Pioneer Press (published March 19, 2011), Maplewood Review (published March 16, 2011), and all licensed trash haulers in the city (Certified Mail on March 10, 2011). Additionally, staff has mailed a public hearing notification post card to all residential properties in the city (Attachment 5), included an article on the subject in the March edition of the Maplewood Monthly, and updated the city's website on the front page and on the Collection System Analysis webpage with the public hearing date and information.

### **National Solid Wastes Management Association Notification**

The National Solid Wastes Management Association submitted a notice dated March 10, 2011, to residents of Maplewood and some surrounding cities (Attachment 6). In summary, the notice states that government managed collection will eliminate consumer choice and limit competition; government managed collection will increase city budget; and the association invites residents to help on March 28<sup>th</sup> to preserve choice, competition, and quality service.

### **Mixed-Municipal Solid Waste**

After the February 28, 2011, City Council meeting, Councilmember Nephew requested information on Ramsey County trash haulers' requirements for disposing of mixed-municipal

solid waste (MSW). Following is a summary of MSW prepared by Dan Krivit of Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC:

1. Most trash haulers in Ramsey County take a majority of their MSW to the Ramsey/Washington County Resource Recovery facility in Newport. The current, primary legal mechanism for these MSW supply deliveries are individual, business-to-business contracts between the haulers and the Newport facility contract operator (Resource Recovery Technologies). Therefore, while the trash haulers are not required to bring their MSW loads from Maplewood to Newport, they currently have financial and contractual incentives to do so.
2. Under the city's current open trash collection system, the city has no direct means of designating MSW (commonly known as "flow control") to a resource recovery facility.
3. Under a new organized trash collection system, the city's contract must specify recovery of MSW consistent with Ramsey County plans and policies. For example, if the city initiates an organized trash collection contract, then state law, proposed new state policies, and existing county policies would require the city to specify processing/recovery of MSW to a facility such as the Newport plant. Such contract provisions by cities, as purchasers of hauling services via contracts, have been upheld as a legal and legitimate means for cities to act as market participants in designating MSW to public resource recovery facilities.

### **Special City Council Meeting Summary**

During the October 4, 2010, special city council meeting scheduled to take public testimony on trash collection systems, approximately 150 people attended the meeting, with 41 residents and 5 representatives of trash hauling businesses speaking to the matter. The City Council kept a list of the comments and separated them into pros, cons, pet peeves, and a wish list. A summary of the people who spoke at the meeting, comments received, and the notes taken can be found on Attachment 7.

### **Additional Public Comment**

Since the February 28, 2011, City Council meeting, staff has received nine comments from residents of Maplewood regarding trash collection. These comments may not have been reviewed by the City Council previously, as they were specifically addressed to staff or submitted via U.S. Mail. Please refer to the comments found on Attachment 8.

### **Statutory Process**

Minnesota Statute, Section 115A.94 (Organized Collection) sets forth the process by which a city may organize trash hauling collection. Once a city takes the first step of adopting a resolution of intent, the process could take a minimum of 180 days. There is no maximum limit on the amount of time a city studies, plans, or negotiates the issue. Further, there is no requirement that a city take action after the process if an organized system does not seem warranted. It is a planning process designed by Legislators to ensure participation from all interested parties prior to a city's decision. Following is a summary of the statutory process:

1. Notice of Hearing: A city must give a two-week notice to the public and must mail notice to all solid waste collectors operating in the city of the intent to begin planning for the establishment of an organized collection system.

2. **Public Hearing:** The city must hold a public hearing to consider the adoption of a resolution of intent to begin planning for the establishment of an organized collection system. The resolution is required to be adopted at least 180 days before a city can implement an organized collection system.
3. **90-Day Planning Period:** After adoption of the resolution of intent, the city must develop, or supervise the development of plans for an organized collection system. The planning process must invite the assistance of solid waste collectors in the city.
4. **90-Day Negotiation Period:** After the planning period, the city must discuss the organized collection arrangements with all licensed solid waste collectors who have expressed interest in participating. If the city is not able to agree on a system with a majority of collectors who have expressed interest, or upon expiration of the 90-day period, the city can propose an alternate method of organizing.
5. **Findings:** To document its decision, the city must make findings that describe and detail the procedures to plan and attempt implementation of organized collection, and evaluate the proposed organized collection method in light of the following standards:
  - a. Achieving the stated organized collection goals of the municipality.
  - b. Minimizing displacement of collectors.
  - c. Ensuring participation of all interested parties in the decision making process.
  - d. Maximizing efficiency in solid waste collection.

No one factor is determinative and other local considerations may be relevant.

6. **Implementation:** After all these steps are taken, and after at least 180 days from the adoption of the resolution of intent, the city can proceed to implementation of an organized collection plan. Such a plan would require amendments to a city's collection ordinance. This process has its own statutory requirements and could take three months to one year to accomplish.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Take public testimony on the City Council's consideration to adopt a resolution of intent to organize trash collection.
2. Adopt the attached resolution of intent to organize trash collection (Attachment 9). This resolution is required by Minnesota Statutes, Section 115A.94, Subdivision 4 to begin the planning process for organized trash collection.

### Attachment:

1. Ranked Goals and Objectives
2. MPCA Letter to the Mayor of Maplewood Dated March 21, 2011
3. Waste Management E-Mail Correspondence Dated September 30, 2010
4. Veolia Environmental Services E-Mail Correspondence Dated February 14, 2011
5. Maplewood Public Hearing Post Card
6. National Solid Wastes Management Association Public Hearing Notice
7. October 4, 2010, Special City Council Meeting Public Testimony and Notes
8. Additional Public Comments (Comments Received by Staff Since the February 28, 2011, City Council Meeting)
9. Resolution of Intent to Organize Trash Collection

**Maplewood Collection System Analysis  
Goals and Objectives  
March 28, 2011**

Following is a ranking of goals and objectives for trash collection systems as submitted by four City Councilmembers since the February 28, 2011, City Council meeting.

1.     **Economic**
  - Cost savings on road repairs and reconstruction.
  - Lower cost for residents (cost per household per month) due to competitive bidding.
2.     **Service**
  - Greater leverage to correct problems with service.
  - Customized service options for residents such as:
    - Rebates for extended vacations (e.g., over four weeks without service)
    - Special collection options (e.g., garage-side pickup)
    - Large/bulky items pick up.
    - Special events pickups (e.g., Spring and Fall Clean Up events)
3.     **Environmental**
  - To better manage solid waste and recycling.
  - Better able to direct waste to the best environmental destination.
  - Less gas and/or diesel burned.
  - Less CO<sub>2</sub> emitted into the atmosphere.
4.     **Safety**
  - Safer streets.
5.     **Efficiency**
  - Maximizing efficiency in solid waste collection.
6.     **Planning Process**
  - Achieving the stated organized collection goals of the city.
  - Ensuring participation of all interested parties in the decision-making process.
7.     **Aesthetics**
  - Less traffic, noise, and dust.
  - More consistent and neater looking streets during collection days.
8.     **Hauler Impacts**
  - Minimizing displacement of collectors.



# Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

520 Lafayette Road North | St. Paul, MN 55155-4194 | 651-296-6300 | 800-657-3864 | 651-282-5332 TTY | [www.pca.state.mn.us](http://www.pca.state.mn.us)

March 21, 2011

The Honorable Will Rossbach  
Mayor, City of Maplewood  
1830 County Road B East  
Maplewood, Minnesota 55109

Dear Mayor Rossbach:

It was a pleasure meeting with you and the other Maplewood representatives on March 18, 2011, regarding Maplewood's (City) interest in organized residential garbage collection service. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (Agency) recent report on organized collection (Analysis of Waste Collection Service Arrangements, June 2009), recognizes that organized collection can offer environmental benefits, economic opportunities, and operational efficiencies to cities in the metro area. The Agency recommends that each community conduct several evaluations of their programs and their impacts to determine the environmental benefits of organized collection for each community. We recommend that you study the following items in the City to help you make an informed decision.

- **Efficiency of the system** – Is garbage collection in Maplewood as efficient as it can be? Will organized collection improve the efficiency of the existing system? Are there additional services that the citizens and/or city would like to see provided?
- **Road Impact** – Garbage trucks are among the heaviest on the roads. What is their impact on the roads in the City and how much does that cost the City and taxpayers to repair?
- **Recycling** – Are residents of the the City recycling at an acceptable level? Will organized Municipal Solid Waste collection allow the City to improve recycling in the community through contract language with the hauler?
- **Cost to Residents** – Can organized collection offer residents reduced costs for garbage collection? Or increased services for the same cost and same level of garbage service?
- **Local Air Emissions** – Will air pollution (particulates and carbon monoxide) be reduced by organized collection?
- **Are there safety issues associated with truck traffic that can be reduced through organized collection?**
- **City Administration** – Organized collection only provides benefits when the City is committed to actively managing the contracts. Is this something that the City is prepared to do?

As our study summarizes, many cities have concluded that organized collection is a sound local decision that leads to economic and environmental benefits. Thank you for discussing this issue with us. Please keep us informed with significant developments and feel free to contact me or my staff as the City discusses this issue.

Sincerely,

Tim Soherkenbach  
Special Assistant to the Commissioner

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**CITY OF MAPLEWOOD  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO ORGANIZE TRASH COLLECTION**

WHEREAS, Maplewood has an open trash collection system with nine residential trash haulers licensed in the city in 2011.

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute, Section 115A.94, Subdivision 4(a) requires a city adopt a resolution of intent to organize trash collection before implementing an ordinance, franchise, license, contract or other means of organizing collection.

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute, Section 115A.94, Subdivision 4(b) requires a city to hold a public hearing prior to adopting the resolution of intent to organize trash collection.

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2011, the Maplewood City Council held a public hearing to take testimony from interested persons, including persons licensed to operate solid waste collection services in the city, prior to the adoption of a resolution of intent to organize trash collection.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Maplewood City Council hereby adopts a resolution of intent to organize trash collection for the following reasons:

1. To begin a planning process.
2. To initiate additional public participation.
3. To evaluate all trash collection system options, including evaluating the city's current open trash collection system for potential improvements.

Adopted this 28th day of March, 2011.

By:

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

## Impacts of Heavy Trucks on Pavements- Sample Analysis

**Impacts of Heavy Trucks on Pavements**

W. James Wilde  
for the Minnesota Local Road Research Board

Version 0.92  
Date 2-Dec-11

Begin

Filename of last database imported  
None

Reset to Original

**testanalysis2 - Heavy Vehicles Impacts Tool**

Select Method of Analysis

- ☐ Network Level
- ☒ Street Segment Level

Cost and Other Information

Load a Saved Analysis

Save Current Analysis

Save As New Analysis

Load/Update Street Network

Analyze and Report

Close Settings

**Street Segment Level**

Street Name: 11TH ST

Segment: PINE ST to OAK ST

**PMS Information**

- ☐ Use Database Values
- ☒ Use Custom Values

View/Enter Data

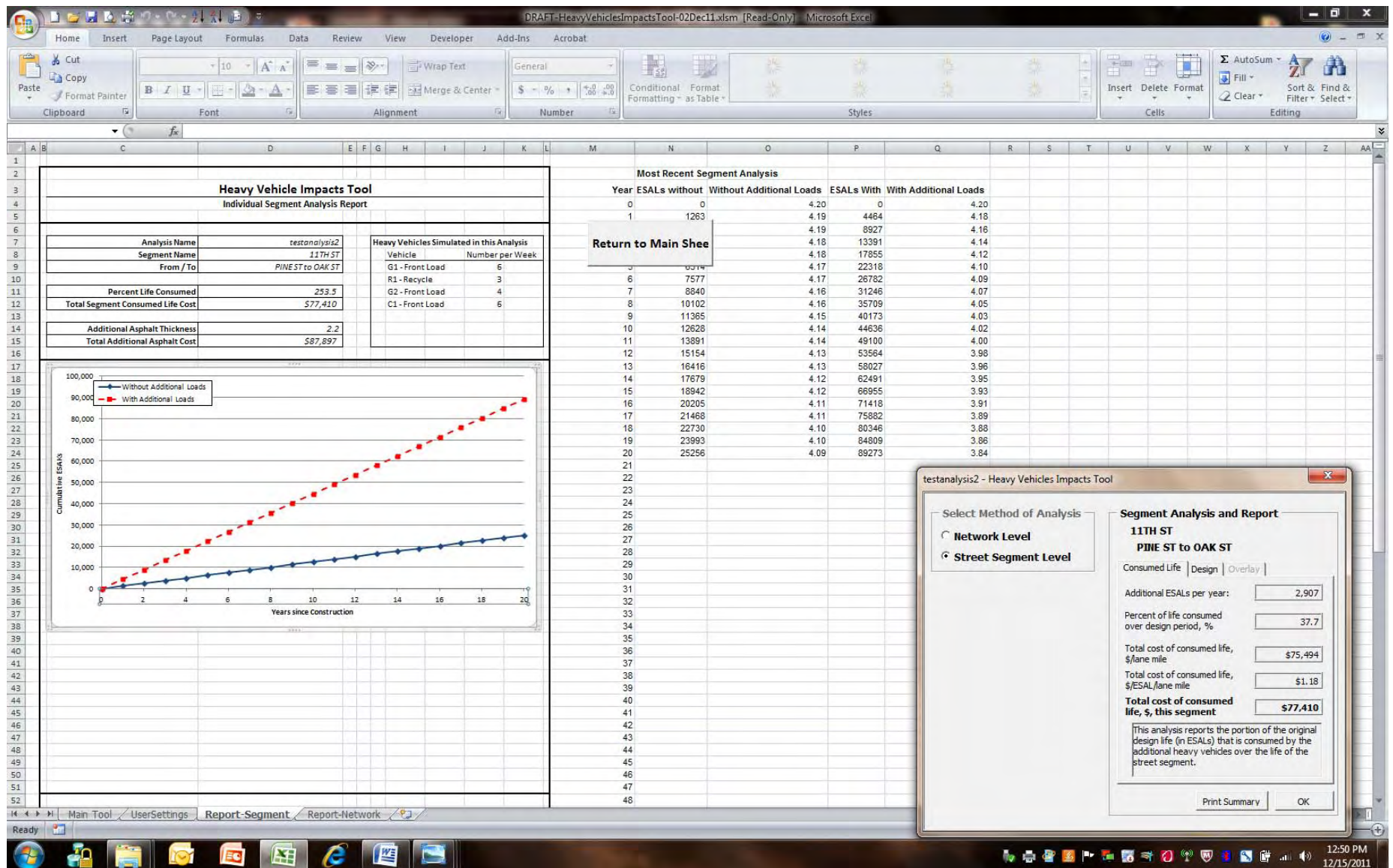
**Number of trucks per week**

| Vehicle Type    | # per Week |
|-----------------|------------|
| G1 - Front Load | 6          |
| R1 - Recycle    | 3          |
| G2 - Front Load | 4          |
| C1 - Front Load | 6          |

Review Truck Types

View Custom Trucks

## Impacts of Heavy Trucks on Pavements- Sample Analysis



## Impacts of Heavy Trucks on Pavements- Sample Analysis

**Impacts of Heavy Trucks on Pavements**

W. James Wilde  
for the Minnesota Local Road Research Board

Version 0.92  
Date 2-Dec-11

Begin

Filename of last database imported  
None

**New Analysis - Heavy Vehicles Impacts Tool**

**Select Method of Analysis**

- ☐ Network Level
- ☒ Street Segment Level

**Street Segment Level**

Street Name: 11TH ST  
Segment: PINE ST to OAK ST

**PMS Information**

- ☒ Use Database Values
- ☐ Use Custom Values

View/Enter Data

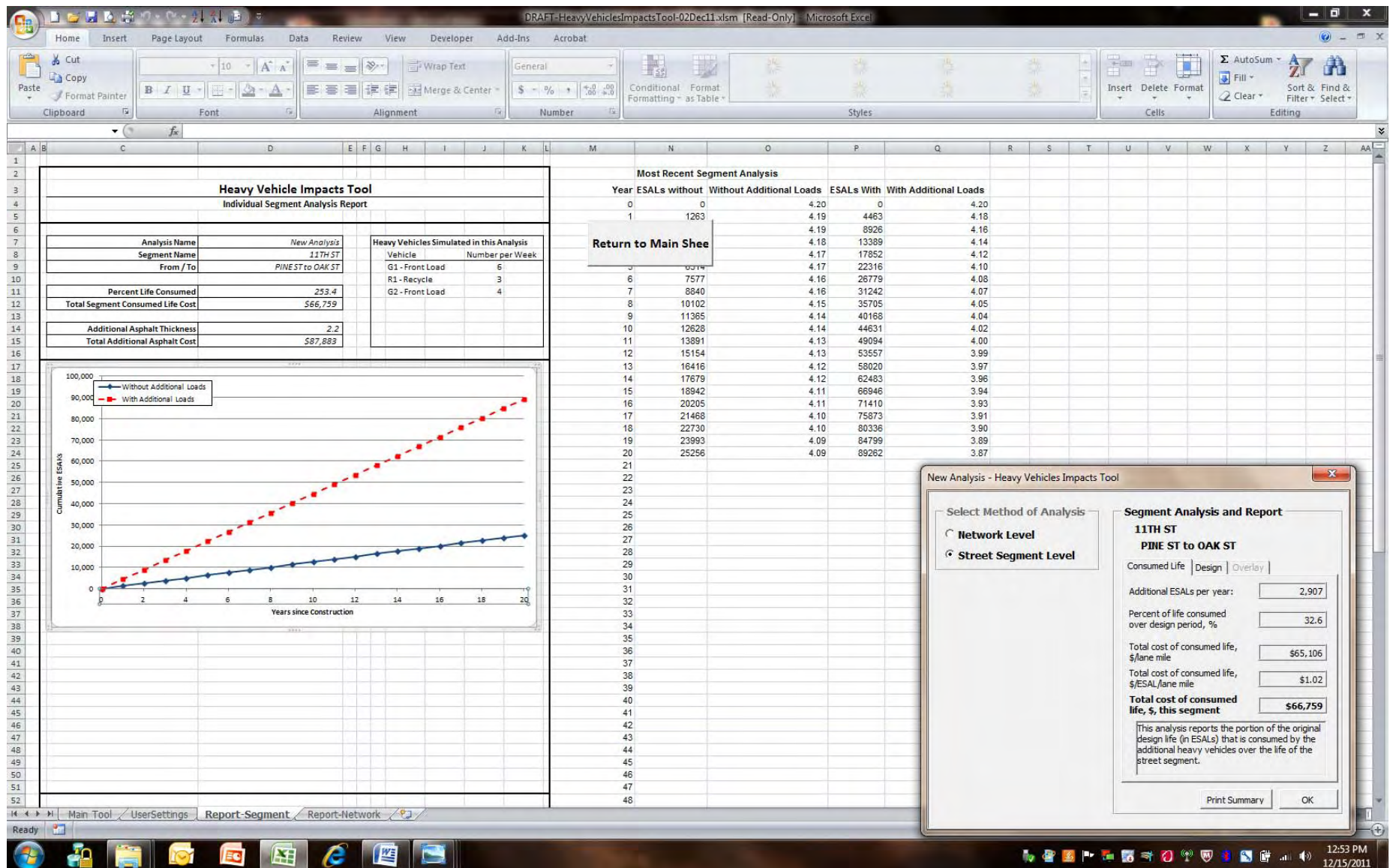
**Number of trucks per week**

| Vehicle Type    | # per Week |
|-----------------|------------|
| G1 - Front Load | 6          |
| R1 - Recycle    | 3          |
| G2 - Front Load | 4          |
|                 |            |
|                 |            |
|                 |            |

Review Truck Types  
View Custom Trucks

Close Settings

## Impacts of Heavy Trucks on Pavements- Sample Analysis



## Impacts of Heavy Trucks on Pavements- Sample Analysis

The screenshot displays a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet titled "DRAFT-HeavyVehiclesImpactsTool-02Dec11.xlsm [Read-Only] - Microsoft Excel". The spreadsheet is titled "Impacts of Heavy Trucks on Pavements" and contains the following text:

W. James Wilde  
for the Minnesota Local Road Research Board

Version 0.92  
Date 2-Dec-11

Filename of last database imported  
None

A "Reset to Original" button is located in cell D2. A "Begin" button is located in cell D8.

The "New Analysis - Heavy Vehicles Impacts Tool" dialog box is open, showing the following options:

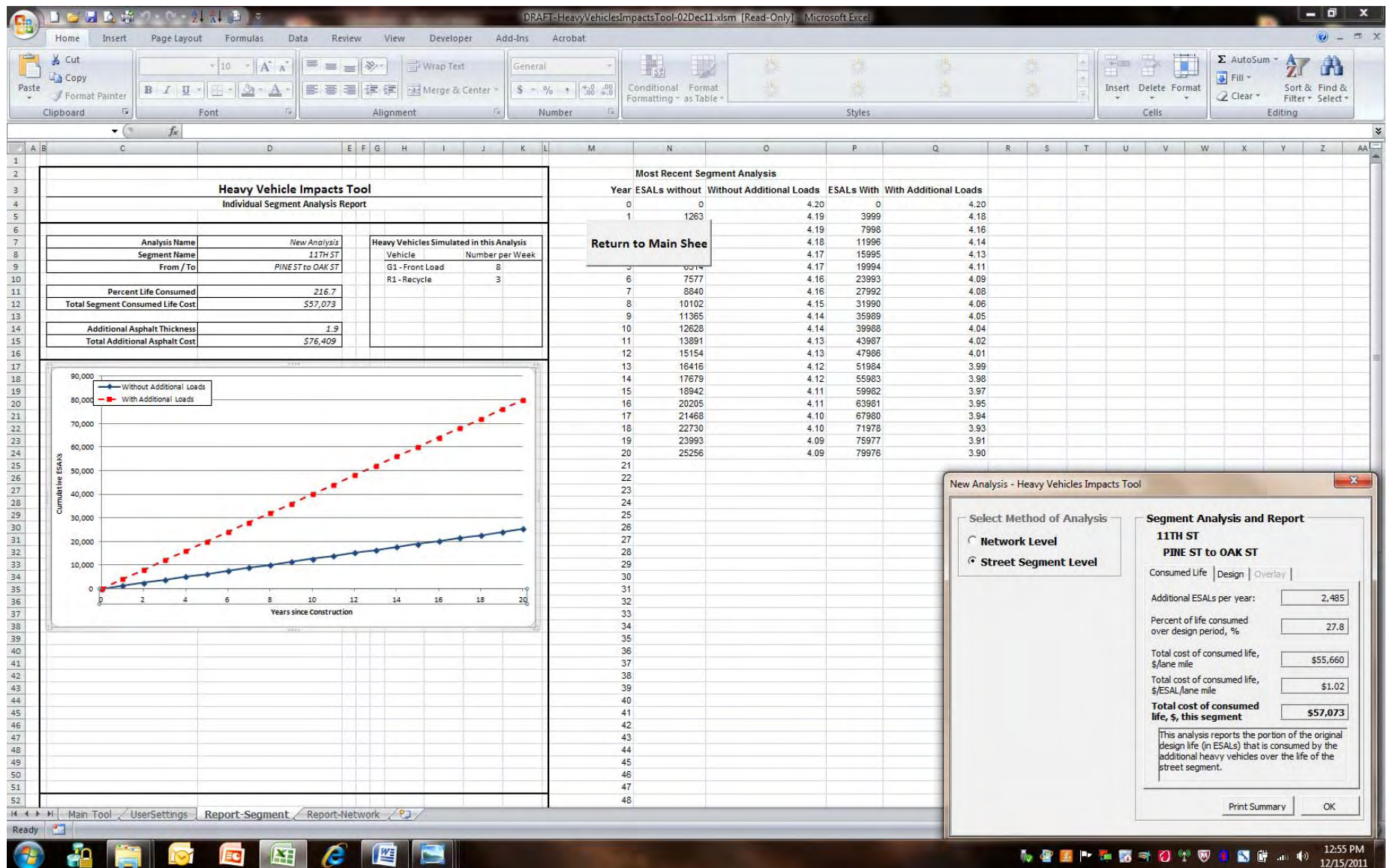
- Select Method of Analysis:**
  - ☐ Network Level
  - ☒ Street Segment Level
- Street Segment Level:**
  - Street Name: 11TH ST
  - Segment: PINE ST to OAK ST
- PMS Information:**
  - ☒ Use Database Values
  - ☐ Use Custom Values
  - View/Enter Data
- Number of trucks per week:**

| Vehicle Type    | # per Week |
|-----------------|------------|
| G1 - Front Load | 8          |
| R1 - Recycle    | 3          |
|                 |            |
|                 |            |
|                 |            |
|                 |            |

  - Review Truck Types
  - View Custom Trucks
- Buttons: Close, Settings

The taskbar at the bottom shows the following icons: Internet Explorer, Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and a search icon. The system clock indicates 12:55 PM on 12/15/2011.

## Impacts of Heavy Trucks on Pavements- Sample Analysis



**Roseville Public Works, Environment and  
Transportation Commission**

**Agenda Item**

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**Date:** December 20, 2011

**Item No:** 6

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**Item Description:** Look Ahead Agenda Items/ Next Meeting January 24, 2012

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**Suggested Items:**

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**Recommended Action:**

Set preliminary agenda items for the January 24, 2012 Public Works, Environment & Transportation Commission meeting and consider date change or defer items to January meeting.