

Heintz, Polly (CI-StPaul)

From: Eric L <eric@apts.cc>
Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 2021 7:21 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1; #CI-StPaul_Ward2; #CI-StPaul_Ward3; #CI-StPaul_Ward4; #CI-StPaul_Ward5; #CI-StPaul_Ward6; #CI-StPaul_Ward7
Subject: ORD 21-42 -- Rates for base level garbage service to be effective January 1, 2022
Attachments: TrashFees_2022-Suggested-REALLOCATION_2021-11-09.pdf

Think Before You Click: This email originated outside our organization.

Dear City Council Members,

I write to OPPOSE the proposed rates for base level garbage service to be effective January 1, 2022, as set forth in **ORD 21-42**.

Please add my written testimony (this e-mail & the attached file) to the public records for the City Council's PUBLIC HEARING on Wednesday, November 10, 2021.

In place of the base level rates that are being considered, I ask that the City adopt "Reallocated" rates that will **equalize the collection and disposal fees per gallon of collection capacity**. In other words, each gallon of each cart's annual collection capacity should be charged at the same per-gallon rate regardless of cart size.

The fee schedule as proposed by City staff for 2022 is **not** equitable, and it flies in the face of City Ordinance Sec. 357.05 that requires trash prices to be "*in proportion to the amount or weight of mixed municipal solid waste collected and shall differ significantly and incrementally one from another.*" The City's Organized Trash Collection Program does not meet this requirement.

- Households that produce **MORE trash** are rewarded with **LOW per-gallon fees**.
- Households that produce **LESS trash** are penalized with **HIGH per-gallon fees**.
- For example, the **Proposed Fees** for 2022 create this inequity:
 - LOW Wasters pay: **\$12.13 per Month** per 1,000 gallons annual capacity [Small cart; EOW]
 - HIGH Wasters pay: **\$4.38 per Month** per 1,000 gallons annual capacity [Large cart; Weekly]
- High-trash-volume customers are subsidized by excessive fees charged to lower-waste and zero-waste customers.
- St. Paul's existing fee structure works **against** city, state and national efforts to **REDUCE** trash volume.

Attached is a .pdf file with two pages of fine print and many detailed calculations. (I am available and happy to clarify confusion and answer questions.) Please give this idea your careful consideration. And then, please adopt "**Sec 220.05(a) Base Level Fees**" that are substantially equivalent to the "**Reallocated Fees**" shown here and in the attached file.

- Small **35 gallon** cart, **every other week** (EOW) collection -- Proposed @ \$14.35 // **Reallocated @ \$8.37 per month**
- Small **35 gallon** cart, **weekly** collection -- Proposed @ \$16.89 // **Reallocated @ \$13.42 per month**
- Medium **64 gallon** cart, **weekly** collection -- Proposed @ \$23.37 // **Reallocated @ \$22.47 per month**
- Large **96 gallon** cart, **weekly** collection -- Proposed @ \$25.85 // **Reallocated @ \$31.71 per month**
- This schedule of **Reallocated Fees** charges all customers equally on a per-gallon basis. For example:
 - LOW Wasters pay: **\$5.56 per Month** per 1,000 gallons annual capacity [Small cart; EOW]

- HIGH Wasters pay: **\$5.56 per Month** per 1,000 gallons annual capacity [Large cart; Weekly]
- Note that Haulers will collect the same total revenue with Proposed or Reallocated fees. \$25,952,978 per year. Haulers' bottom line will not be affected unless thousands of customers reduce their garbage volume (supposedly a good thing) and switch to smaller carts.

Instead of perpetuating disincentives, thank you for enacting incentives that will work to protect the environment. And, thank you for working to protect ALL of St. Paul's households.

Eric Lein

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Owner of 140 Apartments in St. Paul (Ward 1 & Ward 2)