

Greetings,

There seems to be nothing considered for people that don't have much trash (or people that share a can) and that I get charged like heavy garbage producing people, when I only really need 3 or 4 pickups a year, or even less, with a 35 gal can. In Germany is a system where they charge by pickup (the can has a chip that gets scanned). I have sent you comments on the process already twice, but am not sure if I was heard due to lack of response. Contact me if you need to get that email again and I will resend it.

I would appreciate if you considered households that don't have much trash.

Thank you

Gabrielle Pillmann
964 Dayton Ave
St. Paul, MN 55104

Several months ago in an email exchange with Council Member Stark I predicted that the city's effort to control trash collection would result in a cost increase and poorer service. Unfortunately, I was right.

A few years ago I became dissatisfied with my trash collector's service. Solving the problem was easy; I called the phone number on my neighbor's trash bin and was able to get better service at a lower cost. The proposed ordinance would double my current collection cost, plus stick me with a city administrative fee, something that has never been necessary until now. The result is I will wind up paying even more than I was to begin with.

The arguments in favor of this takeover are not persuasive. Council Member Stark pointed out that we don't get to choose our water, sewer or electric providers. This is a meaningless argument and a false analogy. Competing providers of those services would require separate infrastructures. In the case of trash, the only infrastructure is the alley, which has been there for almost 100 years.

Some are upset about the number of trucks resulting from competition. We're talking an average of about one truck a day during the week. That is hardly a traffic jam. As for the claims that air quality is affected by all the trucks, it is hard to believe that eliminating four or five trucks a week from all the traffic in any neighborhood would result in a measurable improvement in air quality.

The biggest assertion is that this will somehow bring down costs. It is going to more than double my cost, and raise the cost for a lot of other people, as well. If someone thinks he or she is paying too much, all they need do is call any of the other companies used by their neighbors. That would be a lot more effective than having the city impose a one-size and one-cost fits all system.

Right now a problem with cost or service can be taken care of in a few minutes with a couple of phone calls. Try getting any action on rates or service once the city takes things over.

Brian Sweeney
Ward 4

Yesterday I read an article in the Pioneer press regarding the new garbage fees and I am livid.

It is evident that this new policy was concocted by someone who has disposable cash and with NO regard to those living in the city that are on FIXED incomes, LIMITED incomes.

This issue of garbage collection came about from someone being annoyed by garbage truck traffic

It DID NOT come about because people were throwing their trash in the streets.

It came about because people were “annoyed”.

People who are FIXED INCOMES, who are on LIMITED incomes come up with creative ways to save money - - SO THEY CAN EAT and PAY MEDICAL BILLS. These creative options include sharing garbage cans with multiple neighbors.

To not allow people to share garbage cans and to believe that \$52.00 a year and a minimum of \$24.00 a month will not have a disparate impact on residents; is the thinking of a person who has total disregard for those who live in the city on FIXED INCOMES and LIMITED INCOMES. Total disregard!

The disrespect this policy shows to those on FIXED and LIMITED incomes is totally disgusting and you should be ashamed of yourself. Ashamed!

V Kosky

East Side

To the members of St. Paul City Council:

I am writing today to let you know that I am strongly opposed to the trash collection program the city is trying to push through. Once again, the city is barging ahead with an idea that many residents dislike. My husband I have been customers of Ken Berquist and Sons Disposal since 1980, and do not want change haulers. The Berquist family has been absolutely flawless and reliable in their service. They are fair, ethical, and LOCAL. I don't want to be dictated to by the city as to which hauler to use, and I certainly don't want some national, corporate hauler.

If there are citizens in St. Paul who need financial assistance with trash hauling, then raise an honest, straight forward tax. Don't go sneaking around with programs that are clearly money-making ventures.

As a long-term (very high) tax payer in your district, I object to this continued treatment of dropping bombshells on the citizens when you have every intention of ramming new policies down our throats at the last minute.

Whom exactly are you representing?

Mary Gilbertson
752 Osceola Ave.
St. Paul

While I fully support coordinated collection, I have concerns about the current agreement. The fee structure and can sizes do not support zero waste goals, rather the plan disincentives people from reducing their trash production. In addition, the plan does take into consideration households that generate very little or essentially no garbage.

Through blue bin recycling, organic recycling, and being mindful of what we bring into our house, my family has significantly reduced our trash production. Under the current system, we've selected a bin size and schedule that is more closely aligned with our use, which also reduces our cost.

We will pay significantly more with the proposed plan. I'm happy to pay a little more for cost sharing and large item pick up, but I'm not happy that our cost will go up at least 50%. It seems like households that don't produce much garbage are footing a lot of the added costs.

I strongly believe the city needs to include residents needs in the decision making process and to include trash reduction and zero waste efforts in the final plan.

Kylie Nicholas

Dear St. Paul city council,

The proposed fee structure for coordination of trash collection in the city of approximately \$472 / year for a large can is about \$100 - \$120 more per year than what Minneapolis charges and the services offered by Minneapolis are more extensive. By allowing the haulers to control the conversation the city is placing a continued burden on its poorest citizens. Landlords are already passing these burdens on to their tenants by forcing them to pay for water and garbage services. This is a bad deal that allows the legacy of a decentralized system to continue to influence the future. Get rid of the current haulers and open the new system up for bids or take them over and create a new city trash department. They have been ripping off the citizens of this city for decades and this new system allows them to continue to provide poor service at a high cost.

Sincerely,

My husband and I, as well as additional neighbors do not want the City of St. Paul to take over our garbage collection. We have used a family owned business for 40 years called R&M Sanitation and we are very happy with the service provided by them. We don't want the city to be involved in garbage collection. Let these businesses continue to operate. They provide much better service then we know we will ever receive from the city. They always come at the same day and time regardless if it is a holiday. The city will never operate on a holiday.

City government should focus on other things. Please listen to the people.

Thank you,
Wayne and Jeanette Wermager
1065 Juliet Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55105

Dear City Council Members,

I am unable to attend the public hearing today about organized trash collection, but I wanted to express my disgust at the proposal.

I like my current hauler. I like the fact I can just pay once a year in advance. I like the service my hauler provides, and I like the price.

Under the current proposal, my costs for trash service would go up 30% with no improvements in service (see a copy of my bill attached).

I thought the city-wide plan was supposed to generate cost savings due to increased efficiencies, but obviously this is not the case.

I thought the city-wide plan was supposed to reduce street maintenance costs, but it is clear these savings are not being passed on to the tax payers.

I thought the city plan was supposed to save hundreds of thousands of dollars a year in reduced litter clean-up costs, but it is clear these savings are not being passed on to the tax payers.

No, organized trash is the City of St. Paul's version of Obamacare. Promise all sorts of savings, pass it on a tight schedule, and then after it's too late let people find out that they will be stuck paying more for what will turn out to be an equal at best or more likely poorer service.

Cost is the main driver for support of organized trash collection as the Macalester Groveland Community Council found in their "Taking Out the Trash" study. Yet it was less than a week before today's public hearing that cost information began trickling out.

I have no doubt this was intentional, as an informed discussion about the benefits and drawbacks of this proposal would sink it for good.

Let us managed our trash on our own. We are far better at it than the city.

Stephen E. Maas
2065 James Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105

Of approximately 2,000 respondents, 645 (32%) would support OTC no matter how their price changed. A majority would remain the same (69%) or decreased (74%).

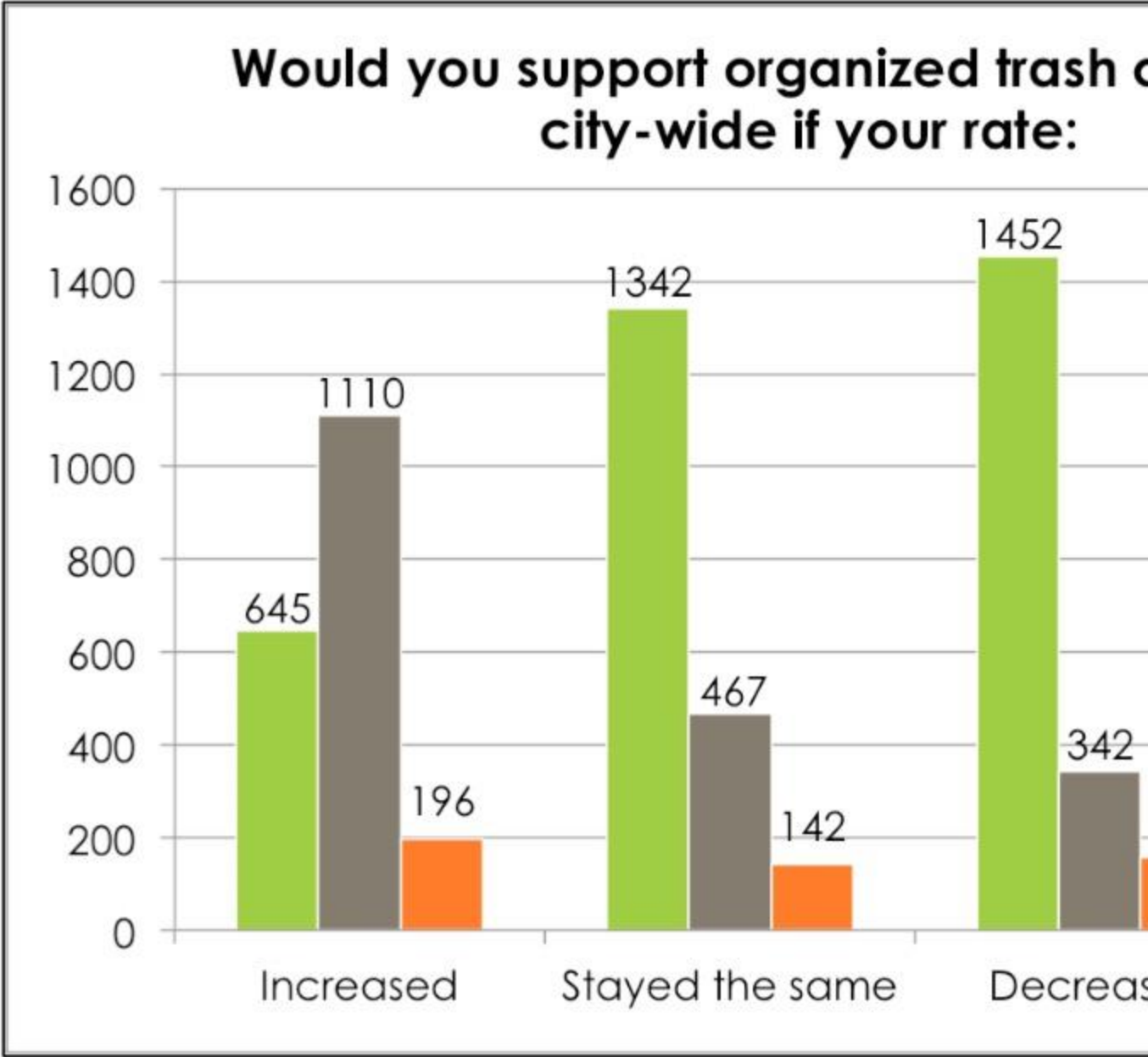


Figure 4. Rate changes and Organized Collection

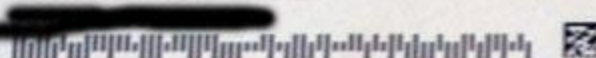


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JENNIFER MAAS
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Account Number [REDACTED]
Site Number 0000
Invoice Date December 31, 2016
Invoice Number G50005022921

Account Summary

Previous Balance -\$26.68
Payments/Adjustments \$12.99
Current Invoice Amount \$334.67

Amount Due \$320.98
Due Date Upon Receipt

Invoice Breakdown

Current \$334.67
30 days - past due \$0.00
60 days - past due \$0.00
90 days - past due -\$13.69

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Previous Balance

07/01/16	FUEL SURCHARGE ADJUSTMENT	\$1.21
07/01/16	RAMSEY RESI TAX ADJ	\$2.64
07/01/16	MN SW RESI TAX ADJ	\$0.92
07/01/16	RESIDENTIAL ADJ	\$8.22

Payments and Adjustments

JENNIFER MAAS (0001)
2065 JAMES AVE ST PAUL, MN

Date	Description	Reference	Qty	Unit
1.00 - 0.50YD-RESIDENTIAL TRASH (001)				
12/31/16	TRASH STANDARD SERVICE:		12.00	
	01/01/17-12/31/17			
12/31/16	FUEL SURCHARGE		1.00	
12/31/16	ENVIRONMENTAL FEE		1.00	
12/31/16	R ADMIN FEE		1.00	
	RR Cty Environmental Chg		242.95	
	MNrsWasteMgtTax@.75%		242.95	

Current Charges Amount Due

G5170110.101.bt-13691-000003537

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From: Amy Schwarz [<mailto:amy.z.schwarz@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 10:45 PM

To: *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council; #CI-StPaul_Ward3; #CI-StPaul_Ward4; #CI-StPaul_Ward1; #CI-StPaul_Ward2; #CI-StPaul_Ward5; #CI-StPaul_Ward6

Subject: Coordinated Garbage Collection

Greetings,

I am writing in support of the coordinated collection for trash in St. Paul. I support this effort for a number of reasons.

1. **Equity:** low income neighborhoods bear the brunt of illegal garbage which contributes to blight and costs the city thousands of dollars in clean up. Also, negotiated prices will mean the same deal for all citizens, not just those who are able to negotiate or who speak English.
2. **Economics:** even with the "competition" from multiple haulers, I still pay more, for less, than my neighbors in Minneapolis. In addition, clean up costs, as mentioned above cost tax payer dollars, unnecessarily.
3. **Environment:** multiple trucks go down my alley each week, causing pollution, noise and potentially dangerous conditions. I look forward to the day when only ONE garbage and ONE recycling truck go down my alley.

I would like to note that we recently received a call disguised as a "survey" at our St. Paul home about trash collection in St. Paul. It was obvious the caller was an advocating against the City's proposal but it was certainly not presented that way. It is clear that the garbage haulers are playing dirty in this negotiation. Please do not let the "small business" rhetoric cost St. Paul residents extra money. It is clear there is a larger company behind these efforts.

I am excited about all of the key highlights of the City's proposal and I look forward to coordinated collection in my alley soon.

Thank you,

Amy Schwarz
2031 Itasca Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55116

Hello. My husband and I own several student rental properties in the Midway. We use Genes Disposal for our trash service. We have a few properties that do not have alley access. College students frequently rent these properties. College students are young and rent in groups of 2-4 roommates. There are lots of student rentals in the Midway. Since there is no alley, the roll offs need to be walked to the curb every week. This had always been a problem with countless drive bys, emails to tenants etc. because they are too lazy to bring the roll offs to the curb and back up to the house after pick-up. We hired Gene's Disposal about 5 years ago because they agreed to walk the roll offs to the curb. As a result, the trash no longer piles up, neighbors are happy, we are happy and tenants are happy. Because we have a good working relationship with our hauler, everyone is happy. Mandating citywide trash service will create problems for us. We will not have control over our trash service. No control over

costs, no control over the service we get. We feel this is a violation of our rights as homeowners. We are not happy about this!

Ruth Kunkel

To the City Council:

Thank you for your work on moving toward organized trash collection in St. Paul. For many reasons, most noticeably environmental ones, this is something we need as a city. I support the proposed changes, however I have two questions/concerns:

1) Organics Recycling - I'm hoping that this will be added to the program shortly after it's rolled out, and is not simply being forgotten. This could greatly add to our sustainability as a community, in addition to our reduction of unnecessary food waste teaching the landfill.

2) Alley Plowing - Some alleys, like mine, are either partially plowed or not plowed at all in the winter. With both trash and recycling now in the alleys and the city behind both, I can't understand why alleys would not also be plowed. How will haulers negotiate unplowed alleys? Relying on residents to self-organize and hope that everyone pays up is an archaic system. We need to guarantee that this happens.

Thank you for your time!
Victoria Downey
Hamline-Midway Resident
865 Howell St. N.

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Amy Schwarz
2031 Itasca Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55116

Hello Council Members,

I was very pleased to read in the city reached an agreement with trash haulers to coordinate trash collection in the city. I think coordinated collection makes a ton of sense and I hope that the council will follow through on fully implementing the system at tomorrow's council meeting

I've been a resident of St Paul for over 15 years, I moved into the Como neighborhood in 2015. Prior to that I lived in Frogtown and Summit University where we had many problems with litter, illegal dumping, and low participation in the recycling program. I believe many residents in Frogtown and Summit University did not subscribe to trash service which did not help matters.

I work in the trash and recycling field, currently as a principal planner for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. In that capacity I've had an opportunity to analyze trash and recycling systems around the country and state. I also routinely work closely with the talented staff at the city of St Paul, and early in my career worked for Eureka Recycling where I helped manage St Paul's curbside and multifamily recycling programs.

I'm very confident that adopting coordinated collection will be favorable for our community. I also think an organized system will better position the city to have success with its recycling program, and hopefully someday soon with organics recycling. On top of those benefits, I think its highly likely the

system will reduce costs for most residents.

Despite these benefits I know that there has been some vocal opposition to the effort to organize. While I think those opponents may be angry and assertive, I don't think their view is representative of the majority of citizens. The city did extensive research in recent years surveying residents about how they want trash and recycling services. The Mac Groveland Community Council also did a comprehensive study looking at organized collection. It's clear city staff worked hard over the past couple of years and used a good process to develop the proposal you're considering tomorrow. I think the research and citizen input used to establish priorities for this new system should carry more weight than some potentially loud angry voices from a small group you may hear tomorrow (or have heard in the past). There are a great many of us who are excited and supportive about the future we'll have under an organized system.

The proposed system seems to incorporate the key findings and best practices identified from the extensive process used to clarify priorities. I hope even if there is vocal opposition you will move forward with offering organized trash service. Offering organized trash collection has just too many benefits to not proceed.

Thanks for considering my feedback,

Tim Farnan
838 Nebraska Ave W
St Paul MN 55117

Hello,

I heard that there is a meeting on Wednesday, July 19, and one of the points of discussion is trash pickup in St Paul. As I am unable to attend the meeting, I want my voice heard here in this email.

My monthly trash bill is under \$15.00. I have weekly pickup of one 13 gallon bag. I provided my own metal can. How does this proposed plan save me money? Even if I go with the every other week/twice a month (which by the way are not the same number of pickups in a year), this will nearly DOUBLE my cost, along with having another bin to deal with! I was hoping to opt out and combine with neighbors. Now that has been taken away as a possibility.

How is this a savings? Please answer me this question.

Trish Kirchgessner

I am unable to attend the meeting, but I have a number of concerns/comments that I hope the council will take into consideration.

We understand the need to reduce wear and tear on the alley ways, as well as reduce noise and air pollution. As well as the potential for less illegal dumping resulting in neighbors having to deal with another person's trash.

As we understand, the current city's plan leaves no options for people that generate little trash and or want/need to save money by sharing with a neighbor, or just going without.

"My current rate is about \$18-19/month. The new rate will be about \$47-\$48/month. Senior citizens on fixed incomes and lower income residents will get screwed."

"How are low income people suppose to budget in another \$100-\$200 a year? **That money has to come from somewhere, more then likely their kids stomachs and clothes..... "**

"I'm happy to pay a little more for cost sharing and large item pick up, but I'm not happy that our cost will go up at least 50%. It seems like households that don't produce much garbage are footing a lot of the added costs."

"I throw out a small bag once a month. And do not have money in our budget for an extra for \$200 a year. I am also happy to pay the \$52 a year but I do NOT want a plastic bin. This is not flexible enough for households that try hard for waste-reduction.

"This really does not help propel our city towards zero-waste in any way, shape, or form. But with that said, again...I am happy to share a bit of the cost to discourage dumping and make this a level playing field but this will really affect my low income family's budget since I have not had garbage service for many many years."

"I went to a small private company Pete's so that I did not have to go through excessive cost. I pay 20 a month- no extra tacked on fees and am happy as I can be with this company. I am irritated enough with the gigondo recycle bin that I do not use-and again, my bent fence. Sorry to be so crabby- just sick of not paying for things I do not need. I think there should be a better system for those who just dump things and more ways of getting rid of extra things-many places I have lived have had put out on the curb days twice a year. It is fun and neighbors can take what they need- eliminates the work for those of us who do not have cars to get to the community dumping ."

"I have been zero waste for 3 years. How does this encourage people to achieve zero waste? I thought that was the goal. I already pay an annual fee (we all do) for Eureka. I think it is also 52.00 per year. I am good with that and it fits my goals and lifestyle. This is a step in the wrong direction."

"How about those who take their trash to the compost site and recycle most everything else. They have next to nothing to haul away. They shouldn't have to pay so much."

Please be as thoughtful as you can in taking all these concerns into account.

thank you,
Kristin Turnblom
1239 Blair ave
Saint Paul, MN
55104

Dear Councilmember Noecker,

I am writing to voice my concern about how quickly the City Council is planning to vote on the coordinated trash deal when the little information citizens have been provided was only released yesterday. This gives St Paul residents very little time to read up on the information and ask questions about something that we will all be made to pay for for years to come.

I have read through the information on the public works website and also read the Pioneer Press article. From what I can tell, not only will I be likely to lose the service of the disposal company my family has been using for over 20 years, this service will also be costing my household more. What will be the benefits of this increased cost to my neighbors and me? What items are considered bulky? I currently can dispose of a small amount of construction debris for a small fee. Will this be the same fee for disposal in the future? Can this disposal be considered as a bulky item as we never dispose of sofas or appliances? What is the recourse if we don't get a similar level of service from the company that is assigned to my neighborhood? I chose our current sanitation company as they go above and beyond the average and have exceptionally courteous staff.

I have many questions about this change and I am certain I am not alone in this. I ask that you extend the public comment period and delay the vote on this initiative to allow residents to more fully understand how this will affect us and also so we will be able to voice any concerns we may have.

Thank you,
Melissa Nonnemacher
1010 Fairmount Ave

From: lmroads [<mailto:lmroads@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 10:32 PM
To: *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council
Subject: Rates for 4 plexes.

Hello, owner occupied class a residential corner 4-plex owner. Have proof of my trash needs (22 years of bills) currently pay/need one 64 gallon trash can. Over this amount maybe once a year...(pay 36 a month). I only need and want 1 64 gallon can a week. My 4plex is 4 one bedrooms, with 5 person in residence(I am one, overcharged in ROW because of a computer error that you are sorry for, and I can sue you to get back the 5K overcharged)

Cannot get anyone to tell me if this is yet going to be subsidized on small business owners, like recycling (pay for 4, have one) or the corner lot ROW fees... do you just want slum lords, if so will let my class A building up for sale...by soccer stadium and light rail.and you can have increased police calls, and tenant issues.

Frustrated for the lack of transparency. And city council members voting on items they have not read.

Any response about the non-average home owner....would be great. Asking since the great recycling debacle...

Best

Lyn Rhodes

I was in support of the coordinated collection plan, in CONCEPT. However, it looks to me like this will be an increase for me; or at best a break even if I downsize to a smaller container.

I currently pay ~\$85/quarter, ~\$28/month for a 65 gallon container.

And, that includes up to 5 bags a week of yard waste during spring/summer/fall. I don't see yard waste addressed in the proposed rates that have been publicized; so if that's an additional charge then this will definitely be increased cost for me.

It seems in theory this system should be more efficient, so I don't quite understand why so many customers will experience an increase. Is it because of the wage provisions?

Sincerely,
Liz Sands
1777 Highland Pkwy
St Paul . 55116

Since I can't be at the hearing tomorrow, I'm writing in support of the proposed plan to coordinate trash hauling in St. Paul.

The number of garbage trucks on our streets and alleys is a big complaint we hear in our neighborhood. It's one of those quality of life issues that you may be used to, but that just wears away at you every day. In my alley, for instance, we have six different haulers (plus the Eureka recycling truck) every week.

This is crazy, both from an alley wear-and-tear perspective and an energy-use perspective. Everyone would save money by having less wear on the alleys, less fuel expended, and less wear on the trucks themselves. Not to mention less frequent noise and less tail pipe pollution.

I am glad the plan has provided for three large items each year and yard waste (at additional cost), and that it allows for direct customer service. Also that the workers will be paid a decent wage.

And I particularly appreciate that the plan allows for biweekly pickup. As part of moving St. Paul toward zero waste, having graduated sizes and pickup increments provides incentives to people to throw away less, while they reduce and reuse/recycle more.

This plan is part of making St. Paul the most livable city. Thank you!

--

Pat Thompson
Transition Town - All St. Anthony Park
Co-chair, St. Anthony Park Community Council Transportation Committee

1496 Raymond Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108

We totally support this.

Rick and Sharon Slettehaugh
2010 Yorkshire Av.
St. Paul 55116

Thank you for your efforts to centralize trash collection in St. Paul.

I read the recent proposal and support it. This should have been done years ago.

I work at a school on the east side. We constantly have people dump their trash on the school grounds or in our dumpster and then we have to pay to dispose of it. We have had electronics, appliances, tires, mattresses and other trash left on school property. In the alley where I live, we have had people dump furniture which then the city has to clean up. And just two blocks from my house there is a little travelled street with no houses on it which is a favorite dumping ground for large objects. All citizens of the city have to pay for cleaning this up and the new proposal looks like it may address some of the causes for illegal dumping.

The centralized proposal includes mandatory pickup for every household, thank you.

Thank you for your hard work on this. I know you will mostly get complaints about the proposal. I believe that there are many citizens who will support this but not contact you.

Change is not easy for some people, they don't realize that this is a better plan for all.

Sincerely,

Terri Ausen

Hello,

I am a Saint Paul homeowner and past DFL delegate for Senate District 66. I strongly urge the council to still pursue putting organized trash out for a bid in order to see whether it is truly cost effective versus reaching an agreement with the current operators. Our city government needs to put the public good, including obtaining the most cost effective deal, ahead of the interests of the garbage companies. Many of these same companies have launched smear campaigns against the organized trash proposal. None of them should have a right to stay in business if they are not able to provide services at competitive prices.

Best regards, Darius Massoudi

