

From: Don Brabeck
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 2:02 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward4
Subject: "organized" trash reposnse

Hi,

I would like to voice my opposition to organizing trash collection within the city of St. Paul. My objections are:

1. There is no supporting evidence that this will reduce our costs.
2. There is nothing to show that all of the small shops will be able to participate. I personally use a small local hauler regardless of cost as he provides great service.
3. My block uses two haulers currently which is acceptable, we only have two truck using the alley per week.
4. There is no assurance that service and quality will not suffer when you go to one or two large carries.
5. This is one area where can and should let the market resolve itself rather than pick winners and losers.

Thanks for your time,
Don

Phone message:

Sylvia Schwartz, Ward 1 resident on Iglehart Avenue is very much in favor of organized hauling.

Russ,

I am not for organized hauling. Most of my reasons are outlined in the attached letter. In addition I've had this hauler for 34 years. He's been coming to this address for over 50 years. As far as I know they pay their taxes and follow the rules. I've had great customer service. Regarding street usage, I have UPS trucks, Fedex trucks, and many school buses passing by my house all day every day. I'm fine with all of that, as long as they drive carefully, because that's commerce taking place and kids getting to school. I haven't noticed any excessive wear on the street. There has been no rebuilding of Hague Avenue since I started living here and it doesn't look like there needs to be one. Lastly there will be business taken away from haulers. The smaller ones may not survive many of those may have counted on this business to take them to retirement and beyond. Through no fault of their own the business is gone. Please listen to the majority on this matter or better yet put it up for a vote.

Thank you

Mike Lyon

Hello Russ, Amy, and others-

I realize I am late to the party and have missed the commenting period on trash hauling in St. Paul, but I only recently moved to St. Paul and didn't have a strong opinion on the subject until recently.

Last night, a neighbor and I went to a talk by some members of the EPA about the air quality in Payne-Phalen. We had been concerned about the amount of smoke in the neighborhood. The EPA doesn't regulate point pollution from backyard burners, so they were able to give us some numbers to call, but the issue still isn't resolved. However, after talking to neighbors, I realized that a lot of the burning in our neighborhood comes from people who are burning their trash. Some people are low-income and probably can't afford trash service, or just don't want to have to pay. Some people also come from rural areas or are recent immigrants, and believe burning trash is normal (and I know about this, because I finally talked my dad out of using a burn barrel in just the past few years in rural MN). However, city trash service would help this situation immensely, and I haven't seen this particular issue brought up in any of the garbage-hauling discussions.

More than crime, traffic, our super-high leaded water, or any other negative issue we've encountered in St. Paul since we moved here in November of 2014, the continually smoky air is the issue that is making us consider moving out of Payne-Phalen. We will continue to report neighbors when we see them burning, but I believe it's better to make it easy for people to do the right thing, rather than punish them.

The most recent Minnesota Conservation Volunteer magazine has a good article online about burning and its effects.

Thank you so much for your work on this issue!!

Jacquelyn Freund

9xx Jessie Street

St. Paul, MN 55130

From: Jim Brewer
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 2:18 PM
To: *CI-StPaul_AllInProgram
Cc: Stark Russ
Subject: City wide trash pick-up

Greetings,

I am a 35 year Saint Paul resident who is strongly in favor of organized trash collection. My reasons for supporting OTC are as follows:

- Our block currently has seven trash collectors prowling our alley and the constant noise of the trucks, the blocking of alleys and increased street traffic is a nuisance to the residents who live here. Some alleys have even more trash collectors than we do.
- Allowing so many haulers causes increased wear and tear on the alley pavement. Years ago, we had a bathtub size crater in the alley due to multiple trucks braking at the same spot.
- It is possible to have competitive pricing for trash collection and still consolidate pick-up by neighborhood. Many cities do this successfully.
- Minneapolis has much better service than Saint Paul and on the average it costs less. My son owned a property in north Mpls. the the trash hauler would promptly haul away anything he put out back, including discarded appliances.
- Many of the alleys in Saint Paul have the appearance of garbage dumps because people just leave junk out back that they do not want to pay to have hauled away. It is common on my walks to see old TV sets, air conditioners, waste oil, batteries, construction debris, etc. piled in the alleys for months.
- Consolidated trash collection would result in a decrease in illegal dumping. Since our block is in a neighborhood surrounded by colleges, we often experience illegal dumping of furniture, presumably by students who are vacating rental properties in the spring. The City bears the cost of removing these items.

I am also in favor of the City contracting out alley plowing. Our collection area is two blocks long and has 48 properties on the alley. I am one of the three volunteers responsible for collecting the money every fall and for hiring and paying the plowing company. Chasing 48 property owners around for money every year is a major pain in the rear and usually takes weeks of repeated calls and visits. We are never able to get 100% cooperation, and so a few residents get a free ride at the expense of everyone else. This is not fair. Whether people use a garage in the alley or not, they should be required to pay. Alleys are used by the police, emergency vehicles and utility companies, and so everyone benefits when they are maintained and kept accessible.

Sincerely,

Jim Brewer
19xx Goodrich Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55105