

**AGENDA – WORKSHOP OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEARLAND, TEXAS, TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 21 2012, AT 6:30 P.M., IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 3519 LIBERTY DRIVE, PEARLAND, TEXAS.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP:**

- 1. COUNCIL INPUT AND DISCUSSION:** REGARDING SOLID WASTE CART SERVICE. *Mr. Bill Eisen, City Manager.*
- 2. COUNCIL INPUT AND DISCUSSION:** REGARDING DISCUSSION OF INDEPENDENCE POOL. *City Council.*

**III. ADJOURNMENT**

This site is accessible to disabled individuals. For special assistance, please call Young Lorfing at 281-652-1840 prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

# Workshop Item No. 1

1. **COUNCIL INPUT AND DISCUSSION:** REGARDING SOLID WASTE CART SERVICE. *Mr. Bill Eisen, City Manager.*

**AGENDA REQUEST  
BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF PEARLAND, TEXAS**

<b>AGENDA OF:</b> May 21, 2012	<b>ITEM NO.:</b> Workshop Item No. 1
<b>DATE SUBMITTED:</b> May 11, 2012	<b>DEPT. OF ORIGIN:</b> Finance
<b>PREPARED BY:</b> Claire Bogard	<b>PRESENTOR:</b> Bill Eisen
<b>REVIEWED BY:</b> Bill Eisen	<b>REVIEW DATE:</b> 5/11/12
<b>SUBJECT: Workshop Solid Waste Cart Service</b>	
<b>EXHIBITS: Powerpoint Presentation Articles</b>	
<b>FUNDING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Grant <input type="checkbox"/> Developer/Other <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Bonds To Be Sold <input type="checkbox"/> Bonds- Sold <input type="checkbox"/> L/P – Sold <input type="checkbox"/> L/P – To Be Sold	
<b>EXPENDITURE REQUIRED: NA</b> <b>AMOUNT AVAILABLE:</b> <b>ACCOUNT NO.:</b>	<b>AMOUNT BUDGETED: NA</b> <b>PROJECT NO.:</b>
<b>ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUIRED:</b> <b>ACCOUNT NO.:</b> <b>PROJECT NO.:</b>	
<b>To be completed by Department:</b> X Finance                      Legal                      Ordinance                      Resolution	

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**BACKGROUND**

On September 30, 2011, the City's then solid waste/recycling contract expired with Waste Management. Prior to the expiration, City staff had several workshops with City Council including discussions on cart service. At that time, Council and staff focused on contract negotiations based on current services versus putting into the mix cart services.

The City is now eight months into a 5-year contract with Waste Management and staff would like to discuss cart services and possible pilot program.

### **SCOPE OF CONTRACT**

The City's current contract says that the City and Contractor may agree to engage in pilot programs to justify the benefits and feasibility of such programs to the City and Contractor. If such program is deemed successful, the City and Contractor may negotiate terms and compensation, if necessary, acceptable to both parties, in each party's sole discretion.

### **BID AND AWARD**

This would be a pilot program with the City's existing solid waste provider, Waste Management. At the end of the pilot program and with results in-hand, Council could make a decision to proceed or not to proceed with the program City-wide. Waste Management has provided preliminary cost options for a 3-year and 5-year cart service program. The 5-year cart service program would require an extension of the existing contract by 2 years..

### **SCHEDULE**

See powerpoint.

### **POLICY/GOAL CONSIDERATION**

In 2009, City Council adopted Resolution 2009-98, declaring the City as a "Green City" and committing the City to achieve sustainability goals. In the resolution it states:

The City will assume a proactive role in the coordination of green initiatives. The initiatives will focus on the reduction of the amount of materials entering landfills, increasing the amount of HHW recycled; reducing water usage; improving water quality; improving air quality and improving the environment for area residents. The City commits to maximizing recycling opportunities for its residents through curbside recycling programs and the operation of a drop-off site that accepts the widest range of materials for which there is a market.

Cart service for recycling meets Council's goal to reduce the materials entering the landfill and maximizes curbside recycling.

### **CURRENT AND FUTURE FUNDING /FINANCIAL IMPACTS**

For the pilot program, Waste Management would supply the carts at no cost and the City would be responsible for any costs associated with communications and public education. During the pilot program, current costs, which are then passed through to the customer, would not change.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Hear presentation on Solid Waste Cart Services and provide direction.

The background is a solid green color with a pattern of stylized, overlapping leaf shapes in various shades of green, creating a textured, natural feel.

# **Solid Waste/Recycling Cart Service Pilot Program**

May 21, 2011

# History

- Contract expired 9/30/2011
- Several workshops with City Council
  - Contract Negotiations as well as
  - Best Practices and Trends
    - Pilot Program for Cart Service
      - Recycling
      - Garbage
  - Did not Proceed with Pilot Program

# Trends

## ■ Cart Service

- Frisco
- Colleyville
- Sugar Land
- Fort Worth
- Lewisville
- Hurst
- Burnett
- Waco

Plano

Coppell

Denton

Arlington-pilot

Rosenberg-pilot

to name a few

# Current Services

## ■ Residential-Curbside

- 2 days a week garbage pick up (trash bags only)
- 1 day a week bulky waste (appliances, furniture, auto parts)
- 1 day a week Recycling and Brush
  - 18 Gallon Recycling Bin, Single Stream
  - Bundled Brush (4 ft in length, not to exceed 50 lbs.)
  - Clear Bags
- By appointment- HHW
- Monthly cost per household

# Our Current Service



# Cart Service

- Automated
  - One man crew
  - Side lift arm
  - Capital Intensive
- Rear-Load
  - Three man crew
  - Rear loading
  - Existing trucks already capable



# Benefits of Cart Service-Recycling

- Greater Capacity
  - 64/95 gallons vs. 18 gallons
- Roll to the curb and no heavy lifting
  - Ease for citizens
  - Safety of Citizens and Collection Staff
- Hinged lid minimizes materials blown in the wind and keeps materials dry
- Increases participation rates and tonnage collected
  - Diverts material from the landfills, saves disposal costs
- Positive effect on our environment

# Cart Service



# “Green City” Initiatives

- Reduction of the amount of materials entering landfills
- Improve the environment for area residents
- Maximize recycling opportunities

# Pilot Program Recycling

- June-August 2012
  - Identify 3, 1000 household neighborhoods for pilot
  - Gather existing recycling data
  - Communications and public education campaign
  - Deliver carts, cost to be borne by WM
- Sept – Nov 2012
  - 3 month pilot program – recycling
  - Gather feedback
  - Compile recycling data and diversion information
- Assessment- December 2012
  - Proceed with Garbage Pilot
  - Recycling only City-Wide
  - Do not proceed

# Pilot Program Garbage

- January-February 2013
  - Order carts, cost borne by WM
  - Communications and public education
- Feb – May 2013
  - Deliver carts
  - 3-month pilot
  - Get feedback
- June 2013
  - Decision whether to pursue city-wide
    - Recycling only
    - Recycling and garbage
  - 3 years left on contract, amend contract if needed



# Hand-Out

Proprietary/Confidential

The background is a solid green color with a pattern of lighter green, semi-transparent leaf shapes scattered across it. The leaves have prominent veins and are oriented in various directions, creating a natural, organic feel.

# Questions and Council Direction



**Sugar Land: recycling increases 200 percent**  
Lewis F. McLain, Jr. to: [cbogard@ci.pearland.tx.us](mailto:cbogard@ci.pearland.tx.us)

04/23/2012 10:39 PM

Recycling increases 200 percent in Sugar Land

Houston Community Newspapers

Posted: Monday, April 23, 2012 9:30 am | Updated: 9:23 am, Mon Apr 23, 2012.

Recycling increased more than 200 percent during the first four months of Sugar Land's new solid waste program.

Residents recycled more than 850 tons of materials in December, 700 tons in January, 915 tons in February and 1,290 tons in March. More than 30 percent of the waste has been diverted from landfills since the program's implementation in December.

Sugar Land's curbside recycling program was expanded to include all colors of glass bottles and jars. The addition of a green waste program ensures all green waste -- grass clippings, leaves, brush, tree limbs, etc. -- will be taken to a composting facility and recycled into mulch or compost rather than sent to a landfill.

March is typically the month when green waste placed at the curb significantly increases. More than 735 tons of green waste was collected and recycled into mulch or compost last month.

Guidelines for green waste placed at the curb follow:

- Loose materials such as grass clippings and leaves should be placed in reusable containers or bags that are securely tied.
- Clear or translucent bags are recommended. Compostable bags are not required.
- Brush and tree limbs must be less than 4 inches in diameter and less than 4 feet in length.
- Brush and tree limbs must be stacked in small piles (3 feet high and 3 feet wide). Bundling of tree limbs is not required, but recommended.
- Green waste should be set out at the curb at least four feet from other objects.
- Do not place green waste in City issued garbage or recycle carts.
- Lawn care professionals should be asked to service yards prior to collection days.

For more information about the green waste program, contact Republic Services at (713) 726-7307 or email [solidwaste@sugarlandtx.gov](mailto:solidwaste@sugarlandtx.gov).



**Portland: city to automate trash collection, upgrade recycling**  
Lewis F. McLain, Jr. to: cbogard@ci.pearland.tx.us

02/10/2012 07:49 AM

Portland to automate trash collection, upgrade recycling

By Mark Collette

Caller-Times

Posted February 9, 2012 at 12:20 p.m., updated February 9, 2012 at 12:36 p.m.

PORTLAND — The city of Portland is kicking its old trash collection model to the curb in favor of a cheaper program that will let residents recycle in a single cart without sorting items.

The plan, which lowers residents' garbage rates, is part of a growing move toward the so-called single-stream recycling and automated trash collection, which reduce costs, save landfill space and have resulted in dramatic increases in the rate of household recycling.

In Corpus Christi, which switched to the system a year ago, taxpayers saved \$1.2 million in operating expenses and increased residential recycling participation from 16 percent to 64 percent, according to figures provided by the city. The city's monthly recycling total grew from 250 to 1,100 tons, exceeding projections by nearly 50 percent.

Portland officials say the move will lower the monthly residential solid waste rate by \$3.34, to \$18.41, and should save taxpayers at least \$420,000 over two years. The city likely will collect trash weekly instead of twice a week, said Michel Weaver, assistant to the city manager. Corpus Christi made the same change.

The Portland City Council voted Tuesday to revise its franchise agreement with Republic Services.

Weaver said residents can expect to see the new system implemented in three to six months. Their old 18-gallon recycling bins will be replaced by the 96-gallon, two-wheeled carts with lids, like the ones used in Corpus Christi.

The sooner the switch is made, the more money the city will save.

"So many cities are going toward this, I think the turnaround time has decreased," Weaver said.

Weaver said the contractor told city officials it will not lay off employees as part of the switch to automation, but will shift some to positions in the recycling center.

Republic Services, a local subsidiary of BFI Waste Systems, completed a \$4.5 million expansion of its recycling center in Corpus Christi.



Arlington to test use of 65-gallon wheeled carts in recycling

By Susan Schrocks  
Star-Telegram

Posted Tuesday, Jan. 03, 2012 Updated Wednesday, Jan. 04, 2012

Selected Arlington neighborhoods will get 65-gallon rolling recycling carts this month now that the City Council has given informal approval to a two-month pilot project.

The test run in a few neighborhoods is designed to help Republic Waste Services determine whether residential customers are receptive to the switch from 22-gallon open bins to larger wheeled recycling carts with lids.

The carts hold more recyclable material and can be picked up and dumped mechanically, instead of manually, into a collection truck.

The council gave its informal approval during an afternoon work session Tuesday.

Nearly 3,000 households in the chosen neighborhoods, scattered throughout the city, are expected to be notified of the pilot project Monday, and a cart will be delivered to those homes between Jan. 16 and Jan. 27, according to a city staff report. Residents in those areas can contact the city to decline the cart.

"You can choose whether you want to start recycling or do nothing," Public Works Director Keith Melton said.

The carts are smaller than originally proposed last fall. Republic Waste put a planned citywide rollout of a 95-gallon recycling cart program on hold after residents complained about the size of the carts and the corresponding increased fees whether they recycle or not.

Last October, water-utility bills increased 25 cents to help cover rising operating expenses for Republic, which collects Arlington's garbage and recycling. But the city did not implement a proposed 84-cent monthly fee increase for recycling since the project was put on hold.

Households participating in the pilot project, which is set to end March 31, will not pay additional fees, Melton said.

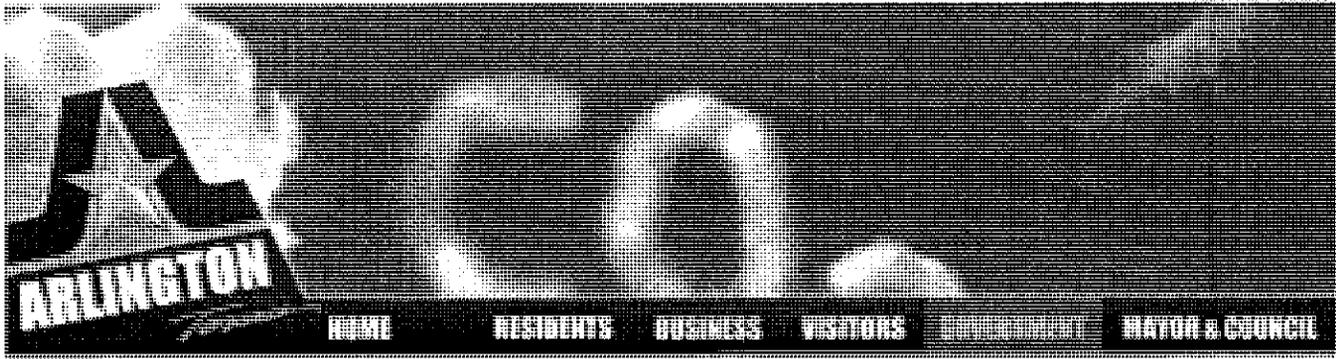
Some residents have told council members they support switching to the carts. But other residents, such as Carol Huckaby Daley, still worry about where they will store the larger carts and oppose paying additional fees that would come with a citywide rollout. Daley said her family uses two bins now, but is concerned about hauling a larger cart up and down her home's steep driveway.

"I don't like being charged to have the cart. They are big and they are cumbersome and they do take up a lot of space," said Daley, whose parents use the recycling carts in Fort Worth. "The idea of another tax is not something we appreciate.

"Selected households will receive a letter explaining the pilot project as well as what materials are acceptable for recycling, Melton said. Republic

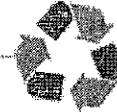
Waste has been monitoring the use of recycling bins in the pilot project areas to compare recycling rates once the carts are distributed, according to a city staff report. Participants will also be asked to complete a survey at the end of the project.

The carts are part of Republic's proposed \$10.8 million investment in an automated collection system that would include the construction of a compressed natural gas fueling station and an upgrade to new collection trucks that run on the cleaner-burning fuel.



## GARBAGE & RECYCLING

### RECYCLING



GARBAGE & RECYCLING

CURBSIDE RECYCLING

GET A RECYCLING BIN

HOW TO GET RID OF YOUR RECYCLING BIN

HOLIDAY COLLECTIONS

RECYCLING SITES

COMMERCIAL RECYCLING

ELECTRONIC WASTE

PLASTICS

CFL BULB DISPOSAL

RECYCLING AT THE LANDFILL

RECYCLING VIDEO TOUR

READ & RECYCLE

Report a littered area that needs to be cleaned up, call our 24-hour hot line at 817-459-6777.

Phone: 817-459-6777

E-mail us

### AUTOMATED RECYCLING PILOT PROGRAM - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Benefits of a Cart Recycling Program and the use of Compressed Natural Gas Vehicles

- **More recycling:** With the implementation of a cart collection system, we see an increase in citizen participation in recycling programs anywhere from 30% to 50%. A cart simply can hold more material than a hand-carry bin. A review of recycling participation in Arlington in comparison to other large nearby cities which use carts for collection confirms this fact. Arlington residents generate approximately 80 lbs. of recyclable material per resident annually, while other large communities with cart service generate 130-150 lbs.
- **Cleanliness:** Use of a cart with a lid reduces the incidence of wind-blown litter resulting in cleaner streets and water drainage systems. The current bin system is much more likely to generate windblown litter than a cart with a lid. Carts also prevent animal scavenging.
- **Ease of use:** Rolling a wheeled cart to the curb is easier than carrying a bin or, in many cases, multiple bins to the curb. The carts are well engineered with a low center of gravity for stability. In a recent survey by the University of Nevada of cart users in Las Vegas, 97% of respondents reported that the carts are easy to use.
- **Space for the cart:** Carts are available in 65- and 96-gallon size. The 65-gallon cart has a 5.2 sq. ft. footprint, and the 96-gallon cart with a somewhat larger footprint of 6.3 sq. ft. Yes, bins are a little smaller, but only a 2 to 3 sq. ft. difference in footprint

Please note many residents have more than 1 bin. Even with multiple bins there is frequently recycle material placed outside the bin; this material also takes space in the residences' homes or garages before setting out for collection.

Container Type	Foot print
18-gallon bin	25.5" W X 16" D, 2.83 sq. ft.
22-gallon bin	18.5" W X 15.5" D, 2.00 sq. ft.
65-gallon cart	25.1" W X 29.5" D, 5.15 sq. ft.
96-gallon cart	27.5" W X 33.25" D, 6.34 sq. ft.

- **It's safer:** Automated cart collection is safer for workers, distracted drivers today represent a major safety risk for workers working along streets. Most serious accidents in the industry occur when workers are between the back of their collection vehicle and oncoming traffic. Based on a report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Sanitation Worker is the 7<sup>th</sup> most dangerous job in the nation with a fatality rate of 25 per 100,000 workers. Other occupations (such as fishing, logging, and roofing) are even more dangerous, but it's a top ten list we would prefer not to make.
- **Less waste to the landfill:** More recycling means less to the landfill, which means longer landfill life. Disposal cost is a large expense item in the solid waste collection service. Once the landfill closes, waste will need to be transferred to further landfills. The additional waste transfer process increases disposal expense by approximately 50%. In today's dollars, this would result in approximately \$24.00 increase in annual costs of

collection service per household.

- **Natural Gas Vehicles:** In addition, the program includes the implementation of compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles. In comparison to diesel fuel, CNG is a cleaner burning to help address air quality issues in the metropolitan area. At present, there is little fueling infrastructure located in the western half of the metropolitan area limiting the use of alternative fuel. The installation of a local natural gas fueling station would allow other fleet operators, such as the City of Arlington and UTA, to begin conversion to natural gas vehicles.

[BACK](#)

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# Workshop Item No. 2

2. **COUNCIL INPUT AND DISCUSSION:** REGARDING DISCUSSION OF INDEPENANCE POOL. *City Council.*

**From:** SSherrouse@ci.pearland.tx.us

**Date:** Wed, 16 May 2012 10:10:05 -0500

**To:** <Young\_Lorfin/COP@ci.pearland.tx.us>

**Cc:** <Bill\_Eisen/COP@ci.pearland.tx.us>; <woody@owens-genesisconsulting.com>

**Subject:** Agenda item

Councilmember Owens and myself request an agenda item be included for next week to discuss the closure of Independence Pool for the summer.

Regards,

Susan Sherrouse  
Pearland City Councilmember, Position #3  
Phone: 281-652-1662