ITEM: INF 00-04207

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
REPORT FOR THE VILLAGE COUNCIL WORKSHOP
JULY 13, 2010 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services Contract	Resolution Ordinance Motion ✓ Discussion Only	Michael Baker Deputy Village Manager

SYNOPSIS
Discussion is requested directing staff to proceed with one of the following options related to the Village's next solid waste contract, which will take effect on April 1, 2011:

1. Renew the current solid waste contract with Republic Services, Inc. and maintain the current volume-based (sticker) program
2. Renew the current solid waste contract with Republic Services, Inc. and implement an automated cart collection program
3. Renew the current solid waste contract with Republic Services, Inc. and implement the combination cart program with a refuse sticker component
4. Decline the solid waste program proposals submitted by Republic Services, Inc. and solicit proposals from other vendors via a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT
The 2010 Strategic Plan identifies *Solid Waste Contract Renewal* as an action agenda item for FY10.

FISCAL IMPACT
N/A.

RECOMMENDATION
This item will be introduced under the Manager's Report on the July 13, 2010 agenda. The item will then appear under the First Reading portion of the July 20, 2010 agenda. Staff recommends approval of solid waste contract proposal option 1 or option 2 as listed above during the active agenda on August 3, 2010.

BACKGROUND
Staff is requesting direction from the Village Council regarding the Village's next solid waste contract. The Village is currently under a three-year contract with Republic Services, Inc. (formerly known as ARC Disposal and Recycling, Inc.) for collection and disposal of refuse, recycling and yard waste, collectively known as solid waste. The existing contract will expire on March 31, 2011.

At the May 11, 2010 meeting, the Village Council directed staff to proceed with negotiations with Republic Services, Inc. for the Village's next solid waste contract, which will take effect on April 1, 2011. Per Village Council direction, staff requested that Republic develop two separate proposals to be considered during the contract renewal process. The first proposal would maintain the Village's current volume-based (sticker) program. The second proposal would transition the Village to an automated cart collection program. A third alternative proposal was identified during negotiations which would expand the cart collection program while maintaining the option for residents to purchase stickers. In addition to the three garbage program proposals, representatives from Republic Services, Inc. also provided pricing

for ancillary services such as downtown recycling collection and annual leaf collection. Solid waste contract negotiations with Republic Services, Inc. commenced on May 26, 2010 and concluded on June 30, 2010. The following sections describe in detail all three solid waste proposals submitted by Republic Services, Inc. during the garbage contract negotiation process. A table appearing in the attachments provides a side-by-side comparison of each proposal.

1. Maintain the Current Volume-Based (Sticker) Program

Republic Services, Inc. submitted a solid waste contract proposal which would maintain the Village's current volume-based sticker program for an additional three year term. The Village's current volume-based program offers a variety of distinct advantages when compared to other refuse collection models.

- Lower disposal costs for most residents
- Encourages waste minimization and recycling
- More freedom and flexibility for residents when their individual service requirements change

As with the current program, the proposed volume-based program would require that residents affix a sticker to each bag of refuse prior to collection and disposal by Republic. The proposal would continue to provide residents with the option of renting a 65- or 95-gallon refuse cart for a monthly fee in which the resident would be billed directly on a quarterly basis. Yard waste would continue to be collected between April and December and would also require one refuse disposal sticker per bag. Recycling services would be provided with costs built into the sticker and cart charges. The proposal also includes one annual Amnesty Day collection, which allows residents to dispose of an unlimited amount of refuse by affixing three garbage stickers. Amnesty Day takes place during one regular collection week per year and all associated costs are built into the price of the sticker and cart. Additionally, Republic will continue to provide curbside collection of live Christmas trees for the first two full weeks of January. The costs for Christmas tree collection are also built into the sticker and cart charge. The sticker / cart costs associated with the volume-based program proposal are summarized in the table below:

3-Year Sticker Program	Current	April 1, 2011	April 1, 2012	April 1, 2013
Garbage/Yard Waste Sticker Price	$ 3.08	$ 3.26	$ 3.40	$ 3.54
64-Gallon Cart (per month)	$ 16.39	$ 17.37	$ 18.06	$ 18.79
96-Gallon Cart (per month)	$ 21.31	$ 22.59	$ 23.49	$ 24.43

Staff requested that Republic submit a proposal to maintain the current volume-based program for a four year term, rather than the three year term listed above. Republic responded that due to an anticipated reduction in sticker revenues during the course of the agreement, a four year contract would necessitate a revenue guarantee from the Village for the third and fourth year of the contract. This revenue guarantee for years three and four of the program would be negotiated prior to contract implementation. If directed by the Village Council, staff will prepare a motion for this four year volume-based garbage program with the proposed revenue guarantee for years three and four. The pricing structure for the four-year sticker program is provided below:

4-Year Sticker Program*	Current	April 1, 2011	April 1, 2012	April 1, 2013	April 1, 2014
Garbage/Yard Waste Sticker Price	$ 3.08	$ 3.26	$ 3.40	$ 3.54	$ 3.74
64-Gallon Cart (per month)	$ 16.39	$ 17.37	$ 18.06	$ 18.79	$ 19.54
96-Gallon Cart (per month)	$ 21.31	$ 22.59	$ 23.49	$ 24.43	$ 25.42

*Revenue Guarantee Required for Year 3 and 4 of Contract, to be Negotiated

Staff reviewed Republic's volume-based garbage proposal and requested that several program modifications be evaluated during the contract negotiation process. A summary of potential volume-based garbage program modifications is provided below:

- *Utilization of Larger Recycling Carts* – The volume-based proposal submitted by Republic would continue with the current practice of requiring that residents utilize 18-gallon bins to dispose of recyclable material. During garbage contract negotiations, staff requested that Republic evaluate the possibility of providing residents with larger recycling carts. These larger carts would provide residents with additional capacity to dispose of recyclable material. In addition, larger carts would address concerns related to recyclable items blowing in the street during windy periods. In response to staff's request, Republic submitted an alternative proposal which would maintain the volume-based (sticker) component of the program, while providing additional options for residents who wish to obtain larger carts for recycling. This alternative proposal will be discussed in detail later in this report.
- *Garbage Collection from Multi-Family Units* – During the May 11, 2010 meeting, the Village Council directed staff to investigate whether multi-family units such as apartments and condominiums could be included in the Village's solid waste contract. Staff reviewed this concept with representatives from Republic Services. Republic indicated the company would be interested in allowing multi-family units to opt-in to the Village's solid waste program. However, to be eligible to participate in the Village's garbage contract, Republic indicated that multi-family units would be required to meet certain criteria as listed below:
    1. The multi-family units must have curbside garbage pickup. As a result, multi-family units served by a common dumpster would not be eligible to join the Village's solid waste program.
    2. The multi-family units would receive garbage collection once per week.
    3. The building management company / homeowner's association must purchase garbage carts for its residents.
    4. The building management company / homeowner's association would be billed for garbage service. The management company could then pass the cost of garbage service on to building residents.
    5. Multi-family units would not be eligible for the annual Amnesty Day collection.
- *Billing Residents for Fixed Costs of Garbage Program* – During solid waste contract negotiations with Republic, staff requested the company provide a breakdown of the fixed and variable costs associated with garbage collection. Under the Village's current volume-based sticker program, residents only pay for garbage service when they purchase garbage stickers to be affixed to bags of refuse or yard waste. As a result, if a resident does not place garbage at the curb for collection on a particular week they will not be assessed any charges for garbage service during that week. In addition, if a resident only places recyclable material at the curb for collection, they will not be charged for this service as charges for recycling are built into the cost of the sticker.

  Regardless of whether individuals utilize the garbage service on a weekly basis, there are regular fixed costs associated with making the program available to Village residents. Representatives from Republic estimate that approximately 60% of collection costs are fixed and will be incurred regardless of the amount of waste material generated in the Village. Fixed costs for the garbage program include:
    - Fuel costs associated with transporting garbage trucks to and from the Village
    - Fuel costs associated with garbage trucks traveling throughout the Village
    - Maintenance and repair of garbage trucks
    - A portion of the labor costs including salary and benefits
    - Other overhead costs – administration, facility maintenance, etc.

  Approximately 40% of garbage collection costs are variable depending on the amount of waste generated within Village limits. Variable costs for the garbage program include:
    - Refuse disposal / landfill fees
    - Fuel costs associated with transportation of trucks to waste disposal transfer station

- Fuel costs associated with vehicle idling during garbage pickup
- Labor costs during actual collection of refuse, recycling and yard waste

During the current year of the contract, it is estimated that the fixed costs for the service, if equally distributed to each household in the Village participating in the program, would amount to approximately $8.46 per month.

2. Convert to a Village-Wide Automated Cart Collection Program

In addition to the volume-based (sticker) proposal described above, staff requested that representatives from Republic Services, Inc. provide an alternative automated cart collection program proposal for solid waste. This program structure offers several service delivery advantages, such as:

- Convenience - no sticker required, containers hold larger volumes
- No weight restrictions - currently 50 pounds per sticker
- Residents less likely to store refuse for amnesty day
- Fewer injuries (and workers compensation costs) due to reduced lifting of heavy containers by workers
- Less litter on streets, as refuse, recycling and yard waste containers are covered

Participation in the automated cart collection program would require all households in the Village to rent a refuse cart from Republic Services, Inc. Residents would have the choice of three sizes for their refuse (35-, 65- or 95-gallons), for which they would be billed directly by the garbage contractor on a quarterly basis. Residents would also be provided with a 65-gallon cart for disposal of recyclable material. Senior citizens (over 65) who select the 35-gallon cart option would be eligible for a discounted rate on their cart rental fee. Residents would be required to purchase stickers for disposal of yard waste.

As part of the automated cart program, residents would also have the ability to dispose of one bulk item (furniture, etc.) per week at no additional charge. As a result, the annual Amnesty Day collection would no longer be offered as part of this program. Additionally, residents would have the ability to suspend garbage service under the proposed cart program. Per the proposal, residents could suspend garbage service for a minimum of thirty days. During the suspension period, residents would not be billed for garbage service. The term of the proposed cart program contract would be five years. The fees associated with the automated cart collection program are summarized in the table below:

	Current	April 1, 2011	April 1, 2012	April 1, 2013	April 1, 2014	April 1, 2015
35-Gallon Cart (per month)		$ 15.76	$ 16.39	$ 17.04	$ 17.73	$ 18.44
35-Gallon Cart Senior Rate (per month)		$ 11.50	$ 12.00	$ 12.50	$ 13.00	$ 13.50
64-Gallon Cart (per month)	$ 16.39	$ 16.80	$ 17.47	$ 18.17	$ 18.89	$ 19.65
96-Gallon Cart (per month)	$ 21.31	$ 18.80	$ 19.55	$ 20.33	$ 21.15	$ 22.00
Yard Waste Sticker Price	$ 3.08	$ 2.50	$ 2.60	$ 2.70	$ 2.80	$ 2.90

3. Combination Cart Program with Option to Purchase Stickers

Republic has also developed a combination refuse cart proposal with an additional sticker component. The purpose of this combination proposal is to provide residents with additional options when participating in the cart program. Under this proposal, residents would retain the ability to purchase refuse stickers for disposal of garbage and yard waste. Additionally, residents would also have the option of participating in the cart program in which three cart sizes would be available (35-, 65- or 95- gallons). Residents participating in the cart program would also receive a recycling cart. The price of the stickers and carts would increase over the price of maintaining the current program. The reason for this increase in sticker price is to allow Republic to recover the capital investment costs associated with producing and

distributing the additional refuse and recycling carts. The annual Amnesty Day collection would be provided as part of this proposal. The proposed contract term would be four years. Due to the increased price to residents associated with this proposal, staff does not recommend this option. The pricing structure of the alternative program is provided in the table below:

	Current	April 1, 2011	April 1, 2012	April 1, 2013	April 1, 2014
Refuse / Yard Waste Sticker Price	$ 3.08	$ 3.35	$ 3.50	$ 3.70	$ 3.85
35-Gallon Cart (per month)		$ 15.75	$ 16.75	$ 17.50	$ 18.28
64-Gallon Cart (per month)	$ 16.39	$ 17.25	$ 18.25	$ 19.00	$ 19.75
96-Gallon Cart (per month)	$ 21.31	$ 20.50	$ 21.47	$ 22.49	$ 23.56

Ancillary Service Options:

Representatives from Republic also provided pricing for ancillary services such as downtown recycling and annual leaf collection. These services are not included in the pricing models listed above, but could be incorporated in each of the garbage program options if directed by the Village Council. The ancillary services pricing proposal is provided below:

Description of Services	April 1, 2011	April 1, 2012	April 1, 2013	April 1, 2014	April 1, 2015
Downtown Recycling Service	$ 31,200	$ 32,400	$ 33,600	$ 34,800	$ 36,000
Annual Leaf Collection Service	$ 155,000	$ 161,000	$ 167,000	$ 174,000	$ 181,000

ATTACHMENTS

Garbage Contract Proposals – Year 1 Pricing Comparison
DuPage County Communities: Garbage Program Comparisons
DuPage County Communities: Sticker Price Comparison
May 11, 2010 Council Meeting Staff Report
Downers Grove Garbage Collection Historical Analysis

Garbage Program Options - Year 1 Pricing Comparison

	Option 1 - Sticker Year 1	Option 2 - Cart Year 1	Option 3 - Exp. Cart + Stickers Year 1
Contract Term	3 Years	5 Years	4 Years
Proposed Refuse Sticker Price	$ 3.26		$ 3.35
Proposed Yard Waste Sticker Price	$ 3.26	$ 2.50	$ 3.35
35-Gallon Tote Price (Per Month)		$ 15.76	$ 15.75
35-Gallon Senior Tote Price (Per Month)		$ 11.50	
65-Gallon Tote Price (Per Month)	$ 17.37	$ 16.80	$ 17.25
95-Gallon Tote Price (Per Month)	$ 22.59	$ 18.80	$ 20.50

Households with Garbage Service	14550
Number of Cart Rentals*	3832
Estimated Number of Senior Households (Over 65)	2403

* Current as of May 10, 2010

Municipality	County	Refuse Program Type	Hauler	Refuse Carts	Recycling carts
Addison	Dupage	Unlimited	Republic	Yes	No
Aurora	Dupage	Volume based with base fee	Republic	Optional	No
Bartlett	Dupage	Unlimited	Republic	Optional	Yes
Bensenville	Dupage	Unlimited	Republic	Yes	No
Bloomingdale	Dupage	Unlimited	Republic	Yes	Yes
Burr Ridge	Dupage	Unlimited *	Subscription	Yes *	Yes *
Carol Stream	Dupage	Hybrid Volume based	Flood	Yes	Yes
Clarendon Hills	Dupage	Hybrid Volume based	Republic	Optional	No
Darien	Dupage	Volume based	Republic	Optional	No
Downers Grove	Dupage	Volume based	Republic	Optional	No
Elmhurst	Dupage	Hybrid Volume based	Republic	Optional	No
Glen Ellyn	Dupage	Hybrid Volume based	Republic	Yes	Yes
Glendale Heights	Dupage	Unlimited	Republic	Yes	Yes **
Hanover Park	Dupage	Unlimited	Republic	Yes	Yes **
Hinsdale	Dupage	Hybrid Volume based	Republic	Optional	Yes
Itasca	Dupage	Unlimited	Republic	Yes	No
Lisle	Dupage	Volume based	Republic	Optional	No
Lombard	Dupage	Hybrid Volume based	WM	Yes	Yes
Naperville	Dupage	Hybrid Volume based	Republic	Optional	No
Oak Brook	Dupage	Unlimited	Republic	Optional	Yes
Oak Brook Terrace	Dupage	Unlimited	Flood	Yes	Yes
Roselle	Dupage	Unlimited	Republic	Yes	Yes **
Villa Park	Dupage	Unlimited	WM	No	No
Warrenville	Dupage	Volume based	WM	Optional	No
Wayne	Dupage	Varies	Subscription	Varies	Varies
West Chicago	Dupage	Hybrid Volume based	Groot	Yes	Yes
Westmont	Dupage	Hybrid Volume based	WM	Optional	No
Wheaton	Dupage	Volume based	Veolia	Optional	Yes
Willow Brook	Dupage	Hybrid Volume based	Republic	Yes	Yes
Winfield	Dupage	Volume based	WM	No	No
Wood Dale	Dupage	Unlimited	Republic	Yes **	Yes **
Woodridge	Dupage	Volume based	WM	Optional	Yes

*Republic Services program

** Includes 2010 future cart deliveries

DuPage County
Municipal Garbage Sticker Pricing Comparison

Municipality	Vendor	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	Recycling Program
Lisle	Republic	$ 2.35	$ 2.50			Residents purchase 18-gallon bins
Darien	Republic	$ 2.46				Residents purchase 18-gallon bins
Wheaton	Veolia	$ 3.05	$ 3.19	$ 3.33	$ 3.48	Residents provided with 65-gallon recycling carts from Veolia
Winfield	Waste Mgmt	$ 2.89	$ 3.03	$ 3.18	$ 3.34	Residents can purchase an 18-gallon bin ($10.50) or a 32-gallon bin with lid ($36)
Woodridge	Waste Mgmt	$ 2.98	$ 3.11	$ 3.24	$ 3.38	One 18-gallon is provided, residents may purchase additional bins
Warrenville	Waste Mgmt	$ 2.35	$ 2.75	$ 2.86	$ 2.97	Residents purchase 18-gallon bins
Downers Grove*	Republic	$ 2.96	$ 3.08	$ 3.26	$ 3.40	Residents purchase 18-gallon bins

*Per Republic's Proposal

ITEM MOT 00-04157

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
REPORT FOR THE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 11, 2010 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
Solid Waste Contract Renewal Update	Resolution Ordinance ✓ Motion Discussion Only	Michael D. Baker Deputy Village Manager

SYNOPSIS
A motion is requested directing staff to begin negotiating a multi-year contract with Republic Services, Inc. with the terms of the draft contract provided to the Village Council by June 30, 2010 and discussion to follow at a Council meeting in July.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT
The 2010 Strategic Plan identifies *Solid Waste Contract Renewal* as an action agenda item for FY10.

FISCAL IMPACT
N/A.

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends approval of the motion on the May 18, 2010 active agenda.

If the recommended motion is supported, staff would proceed with negotiations with Republic Services, Inc. and attempt to determine if mutually acceptable contract language and rates could be agreed to that allowed the Village to transition to an automated cart collection program with three cart sizes available to all households covered under the contract, along with the provision of a recycling cart for all households. As part of the negotiations, staff would also explore service to multi-family structures as a component as part of the Village's contract for solid waste collection.

Staff is recommending a negotiation process with the current provider for the following reasons:

- The current contractor has demonstrated strong performance in providing service in accordance with the terms of the contract, as well as responsiveness to concerns and service requests raised by Village staff and residents.
- By maintaining the current contractor, there is an ability to minimize negative customer service and operational impacts associated with modifications in contract terms.
- The recent merger of Allied Waste and Republic Services has resulted in a contractor with expanded service territory in this area and strong familiarity with service expectations in Downers Grove. The merger has reduced the number of firms in this market.

Staff is recommending that the contract terms initially be structured to seek a shift to a three-option cart-based system for the following reasons:

- Since a cart-based service arrangement represents a more significant departure from the Village's current level of service, more time will be required to review and negotiate these terms.
- The Environmental Concerns Commission, which discussed each of the primary service alternatives over a period of three meetings, recommended shifting to an automated cart collection program.

- There are a series of immediate and long-term benefits associated with an automated cart collection program, which are detailed more extensively in the attached E-sheet from the February 2, 2010 Village Council Meeting.

Alternatives to this recommendation include:

- The Village could retain the services of the current solid waste vendor and negotiate a contract that maintains the current volume-based (sticker) program
- The Village could engage in a competitive request for proposal (RFP) process to select a vendor for a volume-based program
- The Village could engage in a competitive RFP process to select a vendor for an alternative solid waste program, such as the automated cart collection program

It should be noted that the Village will still have the option of releasing an RFP as early as July, in the event that contract terms cannot be negotiated with the current contractor.

BACKGROUND

The Village is currently under a three-year contract with Republic Services, Inc. (also known as ARC Disposal and Recycling, Inc.) for collection and disposal of refuse, recycling and yard waste, collectively known as solid waste. The existing contract will expire on March 31, 2011. Staff will be providing the Village Council with regular updates related to the solid waste contract renewal process throughout 2010. The first update took place during the Village Council meeting on February 2, 2010. During that meeting, the Village Council directed staff to develop an online garbage service survey in an effort to assess resident opinions regarding their garbage, recycling and yard waste services.

The garbage service survey was made available on the Village website from March 8, 2010 to April 9, 2010. Residents also had the ability to obtain paper copies of the survey at Village Hall, Public Works and the library. The Village received a total of 1,175 responses to the garbage service survey. A brief analysis of the responses to the garbage service survey is provided below. The summary results of the survey have been attached to this report.

- *Garbage, Recycling and Yard Waste Services* - Overall, a majority of respondents generally agreed they were satisfied with the garbage (78.5%), recycling (78.3%) and yard waste (65.2%) services provided by Republic, Inc. Moreover, 79.7% of respondents reported they were satisfied with the current garbage program as a whole and would not like to see the Village switch to a cart program for all households. A majority of respondents (64.3%) also indicated they preferred purchasing garbage stickers, rather than paying a monthly fee. Additionally, 85.8% of respondents agreed they would like to see the Amnesty Day garbage collection continue.
- *Customer Service* – A majority of respondents (70.8%) have not contacted Republic in the past to report a customer service issue. Of the respondents who indicated they have contacted Republic's customer service department to resolve an issue in the past, a majority (66.2%) responded they were satisfied with Republic's response.
- *Recycling Service Levels* – The majority of respondents (79.6%) indicated they set out between 1-2 18-gallon recycling containers per week. The responses were generally split regarding whether they would prefer a larger 64-gallon recycling cart to the current 18-gallon bins. A majority of respondents (54.6%) indicated they would not recycle more if they were provided with a larger recycling cart.
- *Communication* – A majority of respondents (64.5%) generally agreed they felt adequately informed regarding available garbage service options and most (70.3%) agreed they understood the requirements for bulk item disposal.
- *Demographic Information* – A majority of respondents (63.3%) indicated they were 51 years of age or older, with 35.2% indicating they were 61 years of age or older. 72% of respondents

indicated their annual household income was between $50,000 and $200,000. 56% of respondents indicated that 1-2 people reside at their household.

As part of the solid waste contract renewal process, Village staff sought to identify and document any environmental issues associated with potential garbage program service options. Due to their specialized knowledge and expertise, staff requested that members of the Environmental Concerns Commission (ECC) provide a comprehensive analysis of various components of the upcoming solid waste contract. This analysis included the identification of any environmental issues associated with various garbage program options and a formal recommendation to the Village Council regarding the scope of services to be offered in the Village's next garbage contract. The three main recommendations from the ECC with regards to the Village's next solid waste contract include the following:

- The ECC recommended the Village Council consider changing from the current volume-based sticker program to an automated cart collection program. This recommendation was submitted with the caveat that any potential cart program would offer three cart size options, as proposed by the Village's current vendor.
- The Village Council should consider the elimination of the annual Amnesty Day garbage collection.
- If the Village Council elects to continue with the annual Amnesty Day collection, the Village should investigate the following items:
  - Performing a second Recycling Extravaganza event each year
  - Improving communications with residents regarding bulk item (furniture, large appliances, etc.) disposal through Village website, newsletter, etc.
  - Developing programs to assist elderly and disabled residents with garbage disposal
  - Building stronger relationships with not-for-profit organizations (Salvation Army, Sharing Connections, etc.) for opportunities to reuse / recycling bulk items
  - Encouraging neighborhood swap events
  - Eliminating the Amnesty Day collection by the end of the next garbage contract

Some additional ECC recommendations regarding the Village's solid waste contract were as follows:

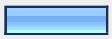
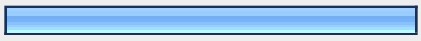
- The Village Council should consider issues of where recycling material is hauled
- The Village Council should consider whether a composting system should be put in place as part of the solid waste contract
- The garbage contract should provide information regarding how electronics and hazardous waste are handled (including compact fluorescent light bulbs)
- The Village Council should consider including apartments, businesses and restaurants in the Village's solid waste program

With Village Council consent, staff proposes continuing with the solid waste contract renewal process. The next stage in the solid waste contract renewal process involves initiating discussions with the Village's current solid waste vendor, Republic, Inc. to determine service options and pricing for the forthcoming contract. Upon receipt of Republic's solid waste contract proposal, staff will examine the terms of the proposed contract. After concluding this examination process, staff will begin the solid waste contract renegotiation process with Republic. During this process, staff will also prepare a draft Request for Proposal (RFP) for solid waste services. In the event that staff and Republic are unable to reach an agreement regarding the scope of services and pricing to be offered in the Village's next solid waste contract, staff will distribute the RFP to potential garbage vendors to obtain proposals and pricing from other garbage vendors.

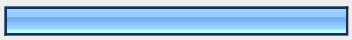
ATTACHMENTS

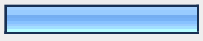
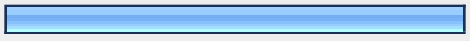
Garbage Service Survey Summary Results
ECC Meeting Minutes 02-11-10

Garbage Service Survey

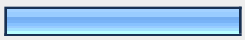
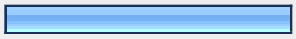
1. I have been satisfied with the quality of GARBAGE services provided by ARC Disposal and Recycling, Inc.			
		Response Percent	**Response Count**
Disagree		5.2%	60
Somewhat Disagree		7.3%	85
Neutral		7.1%	83
Somewhat Agree		15.1%	176
Agree		**63.4%**	**738**
Not Applicable / Don't Know		1.9%	22
	answered question		**1,164**
	skipped question		**11**

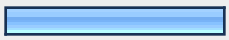
2. I have been satisfied with the quality of RECYCLING services provided by ARC Disposal and Recycling, Inc.			
		Response Percent	**Response Count**
Disagree		5.5%	64
Somewhat Disagree		7.6%	89
Neutral		6.4%	74
Somewhat Agree		14.5%	169
Agree		**63.8%**	**743**
Not Applicable / Don't Know		2.1%	25
	answered question		**1,164**
	skipped question		**11**

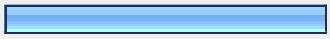
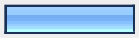
3. I have been satisfied with the quality of YARD WASTE services provided by ARC Disposal and Recycling, Inc.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Disagree		7.2%	84
Somewhat Disagree		5.8%	67
Neutral		10.0%	117
Somewhat Agree		12.8%	149
Agree		**52.4%**	**610**
Not Applicable / Don't Know		11.8%	138
	answered question		**1,165**
	skipped question		**10**

4. I have contacted ARC's Customer Service Department by phone at (847) 981-0091 to report a problem in the past.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		29.2%	339
No		**70.8%**	**822**
	answered question		**1,161**
	skipped question		**14**

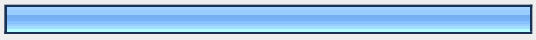
5. If you answered yes to the previous question, were you satisfied with ARC's response?			
		Response Percent	**Response Count**
Yes		25.1%	223
No		10.3%	92
Not Sure		2.5%	22
Not Applicable		**62.1%**	**553**
	answered question		**890**
	skipped question		**285**

6. How many recycling bins do you put out for collection each week?			
		Response Percent	**Response Count**
Zero		2.2%	25
One		35.9%	417
Two		**43.7%**	**508**
Three		13.4%	156
Four or More		4.8%	56
	answered question		**1,162**
	skipped question		**13**

7. I would prefer a 64-gallon recycling cart to the current 18-gallon recycling bins.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Disagree		33.1%	385
Somewhat Disagree		5.4%	63
Neutral		13.3%	155
Somewhat Agree		8.9%	103
Agree		**33.3%**	**387**
Not Applicable / Don't Know		5.9%	69
	answered question		**1,162**
	skipped question		**13**

8. If I had a larger 64-gallon recycling cart, I would recycle more.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Disagree		**49.1%**	**568**
Somewhat Disagree		5.5%	64
Neutral		12.3%	142
Somewhat Agree		8.0%	93
Agree		19.6%	227
Not Applicable / Don't Know		5.5%	64
	answered question		**1,158**
	skipped question		**17**

9. I understand the requirements for disposing of bulk waste items (furniture, large electronics, etc.).			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Disagree		7.9%	91
Somewhat Disagree		9.3%	108
Neutral		7.7%	89
Somewhat Agree		21.8%	252
Agree		**48.5%**	**561**
Not Applicable / Don't Know		4.8%	55
	answered question		**1,156**
	skipped question		**19**

10. I would like to see the Village continue the annual Amnesty Day collection.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Disagree		3.8%	44
Somewhat Disagree		2.2%	26
Neutral		6.9%	80
Somewhat Agree		4.9%	57
Agree		**80.9%**	**940**
Not Applicable / Don't Know		1.3%	15
	answered question		**1,162**
	skipped question		**13**

11. I feel informed about all the garbage service options available in the Village.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Disagree	9.5%	110
Somewhat Disagree	12.2%	141
Neutral	11.9%	138
Somewhat Agree	23.6%	273
Agree	**40.9%**	**474**
Not Applicable / Don't Know	2.0%	23
	answered question	**1,159**
	skipped question	**16**

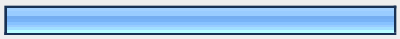
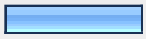
12. I already rent a cart from ARC for garbage disposal.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	21.2%	244
No	**78.8%**	**909**
	answered question	**1,153**
	skipped question	**22**

13. I am satisfied with the Village's current garbage program.

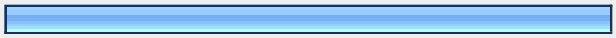
	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**79.7%**	**911**
No	20.3%	232
	answered question	**1,143**
	skipped question	**32**

14. I would like the Village to switch to a cart collection program for all households.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		20.3%	228
No		**79.7%**	**894**
	answered question		**1,122**
	skipped question		**53**

15. I would prefer to pay a flat monthly fee for garbage service rather than purchase garbage stickers.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Disagree		**59.7%**	**694**
Somewhat Disagree		4.6%	54
Neutral		5.9%	69
Somewhat Agree		5.5%	64
Agree		20.7%	240
Not Applicable / Don't Know		3.5%	41
	answered question		**1,162**
	skipped question		**13**

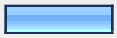
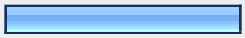
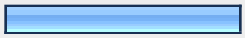
16. Do you have any comments you wish to share in regards to the Village's garbage, recycling or yard waste services?		
		Response Count
		791
	answered question	**791**
	skipped question	**384**

17. Are you a Downers Grove resident?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		99.6%	1,018
No		0.4%	4
	answered question		1,022
	skipped question		153

18. Are you the head of the household?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		93.6%	949
No		6.4%	65
	answered question		1,014
	skipped question		161

19. How many people reside in your household?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
1-2		56.0%	570
3-4		34.1%	347
5 or more		9.9%	101
	answered question		1,017
	skipped question		158

20. How old are you?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
18-30		2.1%	21
31-40		14.0%	141
41-50		20.9%	210
51-60		28.1%	283
61 or older		**35.2%**	**354**
	answered question		**1,006**
	skipped question		**169**

21. What is your annual household income?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Less than $25,000		6.1%	49
Between $25,001 and $50,000		16.2%	131
Between $50,001 and $100,000		**36.0%**	**291**
Between $100,001 and $200,000		**36.0%**	**291**
$200,001 or more		5.8%	47
	answered question		**808**
	skipped question		**367**

DOWNERS GROVE ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMISSION
February 11, 2010
Public Works Training Room
5101 Walnut Avenue, Downers Grove
7:00 PM

I. Roll call

Present: Members Lois Vitt Sale, James Cavallo, Thomas Eisenhart, Kirsten Keller, Jim Speta, Gregory Hosé

Absent: Member Michael Duet, Chairman Joseph Sterner

Staff: Village Management Analyst Brandon Dieter

Others Present: Residents Ms. Jenny Fostett, Mr. Ron Nowicki, Mr. Mark Thoman

Member Lois Vitt Sale was nominated to act as Chairman Pro tem on motion by Mr. Eisenhart, seconded by Mr. Hosé. Roll call:

Aye: Vitt Sale, Cavallo, Eisenhart, Keller, Speta, Hosé
Nay: None MOTION CARRIED. VOTE: 6-0

Chairman Pro tem Vitt Sale called the Downers Grove Environmental Concerns Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Review of January 14, 2010 Minutes

A change to the minutes was as follows: Page1, II. Review of November 12, 2009 Minutes - Under Roll Call: Remove the name "Jose" and insert. Hosé. Also, revise the motion to reflect that Ms. Lois Vitt Sale made the motion. **Mr. Hosé moved to approve the minutes, as amended, seconded by Mr. Cavallo. Motion carried by voice vote of 6-0.**

III. Visitor Welcome

Ms. Jenny Fostett, Mr. Ron Nowicki, and Mr. Mark Thoman introduced themselves.

IV. Identification of Environmental Issues associated with Volume-Based Garbage Program

Village Management Analyst Mr. Brandon Dieter reported that the Village Council is reviewing alternatives for its solid waste contract since the current contract with Arc Disposal & Recycling will be expiring at the end of March 2011. Mr. Dieter reviewed the village's current volume-based program where residents affix a purchased sticker on each bag of garbage and where the recycling costs are included as part of the sticker price. Additionally, the village council discussed the scope of services to be included in the next contract at its February 2nd meeting. At that time, staff identified four (4) options for consideration.

Those options included: 1) continue to retain the services of Arc Disposal; 2) go out to Request for Proposal (RFP); 3) retain the services of Arc Disposal but change to a cart program/another alternative program; and 4) go out to RFP for a cart program. Staff also brought to the attention of the Village Council to be "green" mindful of the village's operations. Staff felt the village should be informed of any potential environmental issues associated with any garbage programs and requested that the ECC use their experience in this area to examine and provide input on garbage contracts as well as make a recommendation to the Village Council.

Mr. Dieter reviewed the schedule of discussions he planned to hold with ECC members in discussing future garbage contracts. He provided a timeline for when the RFP had to be sent out and returned from vendors. He noted the current contract was for three years and that the current vendor could probably be kept indefinitely except that the Village Council would probably want the contract rebid at some point. Per a question, the present contract's terms could be renegotiated.

As for staff's list of disadvantages for having a volume-based contract, Mr. Hosé inquired whether there was quantifiable information available, wherein Mr. Dieter said he did not have such information. Mr. Eisenhart asked if staff could provide a previous chart reflecting the reduction of solid waste over time, since one of his concerns was that the recycling was not a large component of the current contract. A comment was made that part of that reason could be that larger recycling containers did not exist nor the covers on them to reduce litter on the street.

Ask if staff had any general comments from the community regarding the current garbage program, Mr. Dieter reported there were no complaints per se, but, there were service requests made if Arc missed a pick-up. Mr. Dieter stated he was planning to place a survey on the village's web site to receive resident opinions on whether they preferred the sticker program or the cart program.

Commissioners discussed the cart program, noting that various size carts are chosen and paid for by the residents. If the cart is not placed outside, the resident is still charged. On this alternative, Mr. Speta thought it lacked an incentive to reduce garbage. Currently, he skips placing his garbage out weekly and, therefore, saves money in the process. Commissioners talked about the following: how the increased automation of the cart program was more of a benefit to the garbage vendor; the cart program possibly being less expensive monthly as compared to the sticker program; the cart program actually "incentivizing" residents to throw out more garbage due to the size of the cart; and the vendor's employees experiencing less injury on the job.

In discussing the village's current mixed system garbage program, Mr. Cavallo discussed whether there would be more interest if people could make their own choice for disposal or would the village require everyone to use a sticker system. Mr. Dieter believed that decision would have to be up to the Village Council or the residents may stay with the current mixed-system.

Mr. Dieter explained that Arc Disposal did say that if the village did switch to an automated cart program, it would provide a cart for recycling as well. Ms. Vitt Sale commented that it made sense to continue to incentivize residents to reduce garbage by making recycling options more attractive and by providing larger bins. Concern was raised that if a cart system existed, some residents may actually throw more recyclables into the refuse because it was more efficient and because they were already paying for the space. Therefore, no incentive existed to recycle. Other comments included that the sticker program already subsidized the cart program and that it was not fair for the smaller family who may pay for a garbage sticker every other week to suddenly be forced to pay for a weekly cart program when they do not need it.

The commissioners then discussed the need to address the waste issues surrounding electronics, mercury-contained light bulbs, and composting. Ms. Vitt Sale noted that a grant program was available through the Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity ("DCEO") called "F-Scrap", explaining it was a program that grants money for large-scale composting facilities targeted at reducing the amount of food scrap in landfills. She believed this was an opportunity for the village to pursue that grant. Lastly, Ms. Vitt Sale also felt there was an opportunity to speak to those vendors who deal in the construction/demolition industry on what they are doing with certain types of recyclables. Another suggestion was having an audit on where the recyclables were going.

Mr. Speta interjected and provided the commissioners with brochure material from San Francisco, California regarding their state's mandatory recycling and composting ordinance, utilizing three (3) carts with a "zero" waste objective. Details followed with Mr. Speta suggesting that staff and the commissioners visit the web site. Ms. Vitt Sale understood the objective being discussed but also agreed that the village did not need another program to financially support. However, it did not mean that the village should not look at private vendors who could institute such a program. She felt it was important for Downers Grove residents to know where their waste was being hauled. Mr. Eisenhart felt it was important for the village to have some type of goal established to reduce solid waste on an annual basis, or three-year basis, etc. and that the village choose a vendor to support same. He agreed it was important to ensure that hazardous waste, old paint cans, thinners, etc., were recycled appropriately.

Dialog moved to Amnesty Day and the fact that Arc Disposal does roll its fee into the cost of the program. Asked if staff had seen any impact of the recycling program just prior to Amnesty Day, Mr. Dieter offered to follow up on the question. Per Mr. Speta's question, Mr. Dieter explained that businesses and apartment buildings contract separately for their solid waste vendors. Mr. Speta felt building owners should follow some form of village guidelines for recycling. Others concurred.

Resident Mr. Thoman stated that several condominium managers did appear before the Village Council asking them to be included in any future garbage contracts.

Resident, Ms. Jenny Fostett, discussed that some of the left-over food containers at restaurants can or cannot be recycled. She suggested that the village provide some form of incentive for restaurants to provide their patrons with recyclable containers.

Another comment raised was whether the carts, as provided by the vendors, were recyclable.

Commissioners provided a list of the positives and negatives of the sticker program:

<u>Positives</u>:

- It provides an incentive for residents to throw out less and encourages them to think about environmental issues;
- Residents can control their own costs;
- Residents have the option to use a cart if they want;
- Residents become more environmentally-conscious;
- Residents have more freedom to purchase the amount of stickers they want;
- Reduces the amount of time that the waste hauler burns gas; and
- If residents produce less waste, fewer trips to the garbage dump

Negative:

- Litter tends to blow around;
- Recycle bins are smaller than the garbage bins;
- Sticker program requires bag to be carried out while cart has wheels;
- Encourages residents to holding bulky items for Amnesty Day;
- Reduces the amount of time that the waste haulers burn gas;
- Ergonomically, it saves on human capital (no lifting is involved); and
- More fuel emissions used

As another environmentally conscious thought, Mr. Speta discussed the idea of having haulers travel down one side of the street, thereby requiring residents to place their refuse and recycling on one side of the street.

Mr. Hosé made a motion that the ECC recommend to the Village Council that it consider issues of where the recycling material is being hauled, whether or not a composting program can be put in place, how to handle electronics and other hazardous wastes, including CFL's etc., and to consider restaurants, businesses and apartment buildings in the village's solid-waste program, seconded by Mr. Eisenhart. Motion carried by voice vote of 6-0.

V. Old Business

Mr. Cavallo brought up last month's discussion about coyotes and asked staff what was other communities were doing as it pertains to the coyote issues. Mr. Dieter explained many communities were taking an educational approach. The Village of Wheaton, however, was going out for bid to hire a coyote trapper to remove some of the coyotes as they have become a nuisance to pet owners and due to the safety of children. Mr. Cavallo discussed the steps being used by the Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources, which divides up the state into regions and provides a wild life biologist to each of the regions for support purposes. Mr. Dieter stated he would continue to monitor the Village of Wheaton. Ms. Vitt Sale supported the information that staff provided in commissioners' packets regarding the community of Willowbrook. She suggested that the same material be adopted for Downers Grove residents.

Mr. Dieter reviewed some of the previous items he had followed up, including whether the coyote sighting map included coyotes that had been killed by cars. To date, the Public Works Department had no records of coyotes being killed by cars. The use of bear traps or other cruel traps were not allowed in the State of Illinois as governed by the State of Illinois and the Dept. of Natural Resources. Lastly, he would get more information on the names of other trappers.

Regarding the prior topic raised about prohibiting solar panels on village businesses and buildings, Mr. Dieter stated there was no prohibition. Regarding the response to the last month's coyote recommendation, Mr. Dieter explained that the village code prohibits the discharge of firearms within village limits, so weapons and hunting would not be allowed. Also, staff reported the village manager and director team are currently reviewing the commission's recommendation for holding a wildlife community forum. And, there is money in the budget for the 2010 mosquito spraying but it is dependent upon weather conditions and external influences. An investigation will have to take place first.

A copy of the anti-idling policy was sent to the commission and referenced by staff. Regarding the exemptions for fire, police, public works, and other village vehicles, Mr. Hosé inquired how Nos. 7 and 9 played into each other and thought they were redundant. Also, he

questioned the definition of the word "nuisance" under Item C "Additional Diesel Engines, Specifically Exemptions", No. 3. Staff believed it had to do with noise.

VI. New Business

Mr. Dieter announced that members of village staff met with a representative from the Conservation Foundation ("CF"). The village will be working with the CF this summer to perform a rain barrel distribution event, possibly in May, at the Downtown Downers Grove Market. From April 2010 to May 2010, the village will be accepting orders for rain barrels.

Mr. Dieter asked for commissioner input on their preference for receiving paperless packets. Commissioners supported a paperless packet but asked that staff run a couple of copies for guests.

There was a reminder that there was a request sent to the Village Council to consider some of the assignments in the Sustainability Report. Mr. Dieter provided commissioners with a list of items that the Village Council will be addressing in 2010 which came out of the Sustainability Report. Ms. Vitt Sale asked whether the village's vehicles used ultra low sulfur fuel to which Mr. Dieter offered to research. She inquired whether or not the village has pursued a grant from the DCEO on energy efficiency retrofitting; Mr. Dieter believed the village was pursuing grant funding.

Resident, Mr. Nowicki, discussed a proposal he was working on for the Village of Downers Grove regarding "Transitions and Transformation for a Sustainable Future." He asked if the ECC could provide him with feedback on the proposal before presenting it to the Village Council. He did read the village's Sustainability Report and spoke about planting shade trees around village Hall and creating an organic vegetable garden on the south side of Village Hall. Mr. Dieter would have to follow up with the village attorney regarding the vegetable garden and the village profiting from it. Mr. Dieter suggested that Mr. Nowicki submit his information to him and he would forward it to the commissioners. Mr. Nowicki believed now was the opportune time to set the village apart from other communities by pushing toward sustainability. Examples followed.

Commissioners congratulated the village for promoting the rain barrel project. Per Mr. Dieter, members of the ECC may be needed to volunteer for the event. It was suggested that staff also contact the Pierce Downer Heritage Alliance and the Downtown Coalition for Managed Redevelopment regarding same. Also noted was that Fire Station 3 will be incorporating rain gardens on its site in order to stop run-off.

Mr. Hosé made a motion to congratulate the Village Council for its decision to move forward with a rain barrel program. Seconded by Mr. Speta. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Adjournment

Mr. Cavallo moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Keller. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
(as transcribed by tape)

/s/ Celeste K. Weilandt
Celeste K. Weilandt, Recording Secretary

DOWNERS GROVE ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMISSION
April 8, 2010
Public Works Training Room
5101 Walnut Avenue, Downers Grove
7:00 PM

I. Roll call

Present: Members Lois Vitt Sale, James Cavallo, Jim Speta, Gregory Hosé, Michael Duet, Chairman Joseph Sterner

Absent: Members Thomas Eisenhart, Kirsten Keller

Staff: Village Management Analyst Brandon Dieter

Others Present: Ms. Cheryl Jones; Mr. Mark Thoman, 1109 61st Street, Downers Grove; Mr. Alexis Cain, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Mr. Lon Johnson, Mr. Aaron Rasty, and Ms. Kyline Rabalais with Blue Star Energy Services; Mr. Steve Vogrin and Mr. Rick Bulthuis with Republic Services

Chairman Joseph Sterner discussed the purpose of the Environmental Concerns Commission

II. Review of March 11, 2010 Minutes

Mr. Hosé made a motion to approve the March 11, 2010 minutes. Seconded by Mr. Cavallo. Motion carried by voice vote of 6-0.

III. Visitor Welcome

Chairman Sterner welcomed the visitors to the meeting.

IV. Identification of Environmental Issues associated with the Village's Annual Amnesty Day Garbage Collection

Village Management Analyst Mr. Brandon Dieter reminded the commissioners that the Villages was in a three-year contract for solid waste services with ARC Disposal whose contract was to expire on March 31, 2010. The new contract would begin December 1, 2011. A recap of the village's current volume-based sticker program followed along with an explanation of what the Village Council was seeking from the ECC as to its next waste hauling contract: 1) retain the current services of the current vendor with the same volume-based program; 2) go out to RFP for solid waste and stay with the current volume-based program; 3) retain ARC Services and change to a cart program; or 4) go out to RFP and switch to an alternative cart program.

Staff felt it would be appropriate to use the ECC's knowledge and expertise in this area to identify any environmental issues which may be associated with the next solid waste contract. It was also recalled that the ECC discussed the positives and negatives of a volume-based sticker program, a cart program, and tonight was to address the environmental impacts of the village's Amnesty Day collection.

Asked how the commissioners thought the Amnesty program was being run currently, the commissioners discussed their concerns about whether the material being put out was truly being recycled and whether there was a reduction in volume of Amnesty Day materials because of the previously-held Recycling Extravaganza event.

Mr. Steve Vogrin, with ARC Disposal, explained that any material left at the curb was disposed at a landfill. No statistics were available on how much material moved out of the Salvation Army drop-off or the recycling events. Mr. Vogrin did not recall remembering whether there was a significant drop in materials after the first Extravaganza as compared to the previous year when there was no Extravaganza event. Dialog followed on whether scrapping materials could be measured, wherein Mr. Vogrin did not believe the village code would allow it. As to the number of loads traveling to the landfill on Amnesty Day, Mr. Vogrin estimated it was twice as much as a normal week (6 truck loads).

A question followed on whether there was a line itemization for Amnesty Day within the hauling contract, wherein Mr. Dieter explained it could have been worked into the contract but he would need to confirm. Dialog followed that the village may want to research how much of the cost of the contract is paid by the village and how much is paid by residents through the cart program and through the sticker program. Mr. Vogrin explained that 100% is built into the cost of either program. Her further added that other communities hold Amnesty Day but that some communities were eliminating it because those same villages were trying to reduce their costs or it was not what the community wanted. If the event was to be eliminated, Mr. Vogrin would have to research that figure. While he could not provide an exact figure of the number of communities who held Amnesty Day, Mr. Vogrin did explain that it was becoming fewer each year.

Asked whether the residents could provide input regarding keeping Amnesty Day, Mr. Dieter explained there was the on-line garbage survey, and, to date, overwhelming supported existed. Personally, Ms. Vitt Sale did not believe Amnesty Day was a good environmental initiative. However, she supported the Recycling Extravaganza program even to the point where neighbors could swap materials if desired. However, any remaining materials would be returned back into the resident's property. Commissioners talked about adding a recycling component to Amnesty Day rather than eliminating it; reducing the amount of material that ends up on Amnesty Day by holding another Recycling Extravaganza, but not eliminating the event; cleaning out materials from residences for safety purposes; and collaborating with local resource centers and pantries to make recycling easier. Further ideas included educating the public on how to remove larger items, in general, and not just on Amnesty Day; assisting the elderly, the disabled, and known accumulators of items. Other comments were made that Amnesty Day made it too easy for residents to throw out their garbage.

Mr. Dieter proceeded to ask ARC representatives Vogrin and Bulthuis questions from last month's meeting. Answers were as follows: costs for land filling one ton of garbage as compared to recycling one ton of recyclable materials was $50.00 versus $10.00; bio-diesel fuel was used in ARC's trucks (Arc is researching alternative fuels); and ARC uses transfer stations in LeCook, North Lake, or Mt. Prospect which transports material to the Pontiac or Lee County landfill. It was also noted that ARC owns and operates landfills and has its own recycling centers. It does allow for certain residential E-waste materials, as allowed by the EPA, and the various types of plastics are sorted out. Lastly, ARC does not collect No. 6 recyclables since there is no market for it and it is very cost-ineffective to recycle it. Yard waste is transferred to farms or a compost facility.

As to ARC having future consideration for composting yard and kitchen waste, it was explained that ARC is looking at alternatives to handle food waste, but government regulations and available facilities have to be considered. Ms. Vitt Sale inquired whether the vendor knew about the government's F-Scrap program which collects organic waste. Mr. Speta discussed California's current food waste program. Dialog followed that ARC did service apartment buildings and businesses but businesses were not forced to have recycling services.

Asked if ARC tracks the recycling rates of its communities, figures were noted in the commissioners' handout. It was noted that yard waste could fluctuate those figures community to community. Other questions were answered. Per a question, Mr. Vogrin stated the largest impediment to the Village was convenience, and to change that would be to go to a recycling cart program. Dialog then followed that if a cart program were to be chosen, there would be no incentive to recycle. However, it was explained that three different cart sizes would exist, either for recycling or for regular waste material. Continuing with questions, ARC representatives explained how hazardous material is detected and that the IEPA is called out to inspect the truck. Any banned materials consistently coming from a residence, depending upon the seriousness of the material, may be tagged or contacted and ARC will try to locate the offender.

Mr. Vogrin explained that the difference in profit margin between the volume-based program versus a cart program was "hopefully none". He explained the biggest factor with a volume-based program was the increasing price of the sticker. Conversation followed as to the various costs involved in the cost of hauling, i.e., union wages, length of work day, etc., and the fact that residents had the perception that recycling was free when, in actuality, it was not.

Asked whether ARC had a program to assist the elderly or handicapped, Mr. Vogrin explained that such programs could be put in place. Adding to that Mr. Dieter explained the village already had such a program (Home Shore Program) connecting high school students with senior citizens.

Ms. Vitt-Sale understood that ARC was composting at the McCormick Place for special events and asked ARC representatives to return when the same could be applied to the Village of Downers Grove. She commended ARC for starting the composting program.

Commissioners held a discussion on what they wanted to include in the hauling contract. The overall majority favored the three-size cart program because there was a financial incentive if one chose the smaller cart. The commissioners felt that the village should encourage programs that remove organic materials. They spoke about dropping Amnesty Day but having another recycling event. They also discussed adding information on the village's web site about local recycling programs and providing information about senior citizens or disabled persons assistance. There was some concern raised by a couple commissioners to move away from the sticker/mixed program because it already provided flexibility for the residents. Dialog followed on creating two motions: 1) a cart versus volume-based program; and 2) holding Amnesty Day.

Mr. Duet made a motion to recommend that Amnesty Day be eliminated, provided that staff include the information as written on the board. Seconded by Ms. Vitt Sale. Roll call:

Aye: Ms. Vitt-Sale, Mr. Speta, Mr. Duet, Chairman Sterner
Nay: Cavallo, Mr. Hosé

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE: 4-2

Mr. Hosé made a motion that the Environmental Concerns Commission recommend to the Village Council that the village move to a three size cart-based program and include carts for the recycling program. Seconded by Mr. Duet. Roll call:

Aye: Ms. Vitt-Sale, Mr. Hosé , Mr. Duet, Chairman Sterner
Nay: Mr. Cavallo, Mr. Speta,

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE: 4-2

Commissioners agreed that it was beneficial for the Village Council to focus on the discussion that took place rather than the actual voting figures.

Mr. Cavallo made a motion that if the Village Council chooses not to eliminate Amnesty Day for 2010/2011, that the ECC encourage improvements to Amnesty Day, in particular: 1) that a second recycling event be included in the annual calendar; 2) improve communication to the residents regarding bulk item disposal; 3) that programs be made available to assist senior citizens and the disabled, 4) build relationships with not-for-profit recyclers, 5) that neighborhood swap events be held, and 6) the village shall re-evaluate Amnesty Day in three years. Seconded by Mr. Hosé. Roll call:

Aye: Mr. Cavallo, Mr. Speta, Mr. Hosé, Mr. Duet, Chairman Sterner
Nay: Ms. Vitt Sale

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE: 5-1

ARC representatives were asked if other communities placed their waste on one side of the street in order to reduce the amount of trucks traveling down a street and to reduce fuel consumption, wherein ARC reps favored the idea but suggested that it be discussed with the village first.

V. Old Business

Staff distributed informational brochures regarding rain barrels ($70.00 ea.) and stated that the Conservation Foundation was taking orders throughout the month of April. The order form was available on-line and for pickup at Village Hall. ECC commissioners were invited to volunteer for the May 8, 2010 distribution event and could receive training at the Village Hall on April 21, 2010, 7:00 p.m. The barrel distribution was to take place at the Downtown Downers Grove Market.

VI. New Business - Presentation by Blue Star Energy

Mr. Aaron Rasty, co-founder of Blue Star Energy, introduced himself and discussed the history of his retail electric provider/company and the states his company provides service in. The Chicago-based company employs 150 employees and has an annual revenue of approximately $200 Million Dollars. The company is privately owned and is the fastest growing company in Illinois. His company's goal is to service the residential customer base so that residents have a provider choice as well as a "green" power option. Mr. Rasty explained that Blue Star is a certified marketer of The Center for Resource Solutions with the Green Need Program and they do have a national wind product. Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) are sold to their commercial customers but Blue Star would like to offer RECs to the residential community. Their company is a member of the Chicago Climate Exchange. Further details followed.

Asked what percentage of power Blue Star sells to its customers that is green, Mr. Rasty, stated customers can choose the amount.

Mr. Alexis Cain, with the U.S. EPA (Region 5), stated he was present because his agency offers the Green Power Partnership program, which ties into Blue Star's program. The program recognizes institutions, companies, businesses, etc. that purchase green power. The program defines what green power is and sets the rules for how organizations can make a claim about purchasing green power. To date, approximately 1300 partners exist nationwide. Mr. Cain further explained that the Green Power Communities program is a program where once a city is a green power partner, they can become a green power community by encouraging their residents/businesses to purchase green power. The minimum purchase requirement to be a green power partner is 2%. and the same applies to the community as a whole. Mr. Cain explained the marketing that takes place once a community becomes a green power partner.

In summary, Blue Star was asking the ECC to forward a proposal to the mayor/village council recommending that the village become a Green Power Community by purchasing renewable energy credits by calculating 2% of the village's annual consumption, which could range between $500 and $1,000. Details followed on how the community would be reached through a marketing campaign. Rates were discussed and whether Blue Star would be using ComEd's delivery system. Further details of the program followed, along with how a resident could switch easily between ComEd and Blue Star and back again to ComEd if rates became too costly. Questions followed as to how this program differed from the natural gas provider competition a few years prior and how Blue Star, a much smaller company, could guaranty a fixed price in a volatile market, wherein Mr. Rasty explained that hedging takes place with the fixed priced contacts.

Per staff's question, Mr. Rasty clarified the village did not have to sign off on anything before its residents could change over to Blue Star via Blue Star's web site, but having the village's support of the program was good visibility for the residents to see.

Some commissioners preferred seeing more information on the program but also favored supporting a local-based company by purchasing RECs from it. Mr. Dieter stated there was no council direction on this matter and staff preferred to receive more information and compile a full report for the commission at the next meeting. Questions followed regarding the "smart grid."

Mr. Hosé made a motion to postpone this matter until the ECC's next meeting (May 13, 2010). Seconded by Ms. Vitt Sale. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote of 6-0.

Mr. Speta commended staff/village for the installation of the solar lights in the Prentice Creek Subdivision.

VIII. Adjournment

Chairman Sterner moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Speta. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
(as transcribed by tape)

/s/ Celeste K. Weilandt
Celeste K. Weilandt, Recording Secretary

ITEM INF 00-04026

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
REPORT FOR THE VILLAGE COUNCIL WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 2, 2010 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services	Resolution Ordinance Motion ✓ Discussion Only	Dave Fieldman Village Manager

SYNOPSIS
Discussion is requested regarding the scope of services to be offered in the Village's next solid waste collection and disposal services contract, which will take effect on April 1, 2011. Staff has identified four options for the Village Council to consider during this process, which are as follows:

- The Village could retain the services of the current solid waste vendor and negotiate a contract that maintains the current volume-based (sticker) program
- The Village could retain the services of the current solid waste vendor and negotiate a contract that implements an alternative solid waste program, such as the automated cart collection program
- The Village could engage in a competitive request for proposal (RFP) process to select a vendor for a volume-based program
- The Village could engage in a competitive RFP process to select a vendor for an alternative solid waste program, such as the automated cart collection program

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT
The 2010 Strategic Plan identifies *Solid Waste Contract Renewal* as an action agenda item for FY10.

FISCAL IMPACT
N/A.

RECOMMENDATION
Discussion only.

BACKGROUND
Staff is requesting Village Council direction in order to help determine the scope of services to be included in the Village's next solid waste contract. The Village is currently under a three-year contract with Republic Services, Inc. (also known as ARC Disposal and Recycling, Inc.) for collection and disposal of refuse, recycling and yard waste, collectively known as solid waste. The existing contract will expire on March 31, 2011.

The Village's current program has been in place since the early 1990's and presently serves approximately 14,550 single-family collection units. The contract provides for a volume-based program, meaning that residents pay per bag of refuse with stickers costing $2.98 each ($3.08 per sticker effective April 1, 2010). In addition, the contract offers the option of disposing of refuse in a vendor-issued 64 or 96-gallon cart for which the resident is billed directly. The 64-gallon bins cost $16.39 per month, and the 96-gallon carts cost $21.31 per month. Yard waste is collected between April and December and also requires one refuse disposal sticker per bag. Recycling is provided with costs built into the sticker and cart charges to provide an incentive for residents to recycle. The current contract also includes one annual Amnesty Day collection, which allows residents to dispose of an unlimited amount of refuse by affixing three garbage

stickers. Amnesty Day takes place during one regular collection week per year and all associated costs are built into the price of the sticker and cart.

The Village's current volume-based program offers a variety of distinct advantages when compared to other refuse collection models.

- Lower disposal costs for most residents
- Encourages waste minimization and recycling
- More freedom and flexibility for residents when their individual service requirements change
- No billing system is required

In reviewing the Village's current solid waste contract, staff also identified several disadvantages related to the volume-based program which should be addressed prior to implementing the next solid waste contract, including the following:

- *Complexity of the current program* – The Village's current solid waste program offers residents a variety of service options. These multiple service options have resulted in an increasingly complex program which can be a source of confusion, especially for new residents.
- *Incentives for non-compliance with sticker program* – In a volume-based waste program, residents may avoid the cost of garbage stickers utilizing alternative disposal methods (disposing of garbage in business dumpsters, illegal dumping, etc.)
- *Lack of adequate recycling opportunities* – The Village's current solid waste program offers residents the opportunity to recycle utilizing an 18-gallon bin. Residents have commented these 18-gallon recycling bins are too small for their recycling disposal needs, and most households use more than one recycling bin. In addition, the 18-gallon containers do not have lids, resulting in an increased amount of litter on the street.
- *Confusion regarding the disposal of bulk items* – Regarding the disposal of bulk items (furniture, etc.), the Village's current solid waste vendor requires residents to affix one refuse sticker for every 50 pounds of weight. Residents often have difficulty estimating the weight of large items, which has led to confusion regarding the number of stickers required to dispose of bulk items and inconsistency in removal by the solid waste vendor.
- *Problems associated with Amnesty Day* – Each year, residents have the opportunity to dispose of an unlimited amount of garbage by affixing only three refuse stickers. This has resulted in residents retaining large amounts of garbage for an extended period prior to amnesty day. Additionally, staff has received several complaints from residents regarding the appearance of the Village during this amnesty day period.
- *Increasing sticker prices* – The costs associated with providing refuse collection and disposal services are likely to increase at a more rapid rate than alternative collection programs, unless the Village assumes a greater share of the uncertainty and risk. As a result, solid waste vendors are raising the prices for garbage stickers and requiring that municipalities meet minimum garbage sticker sales targets to maintain current sticker prices. Additionally, many communities charge residents a monthly garbage fee in addition to the price of stickers to maintain sticker prices.
- *Allows residents to avoid fixed costs associated with weekly service delivery* – If a resident does not dispose of solid waste that requires a sticker, they do not pay anything for the service for that particular week. However, costs are still being incurred for the basic operation of the vehicle that, arguably, should be spread across all potential users of the system.

In contrast with the Village's current volume-based program, many refuse collection vendors offer an automated cart collection program. As part of this program, garbage and recycling would be placed in vendor-supplied carts, available in various sizes depending on individual household needs. Yard waste disposal would require the use of stickers, similar to the current volume-based program. Residents would be billed for this service. This program structure offers several service delivery enhancements, such as:

- Convenience - no sticker required, containers hold larger volumes
- No weight restrictions - currently 50 pounds per sticker
- Cost control - more predictable costs
- Reports from other municipalities that have shifted to this type of program of fewer complaints from residents compared with volume-based programs (after implementation has occurred)
- Residents less likely to store refuse for amnesty day
- Fewer injuries (and workers compensation costs) due to reduced lifting of heavy containers by workers
- Less litter on streets, as refuse, recycling and yard waste containers are covered
- Simplified bulk item disposal – contract could be structured to allow to dispose of one bulk item per week, which may also allow for the elimination of Amnesty Day.

This alternative does offer several economic and environmental benefits and there has been a shift toward such programs within the solid waste industry. However, the program would require a more substantial change from the current program and, in the near-term, would likely increase the overall costs for solid waste collection and disposal services more than a continuation of the current program. Moreover, if the Village elects to change solid waste vendors in 2011, there will be indirect costs associated with the transition (responses to customer questions, collecting and issuing new carts, public education, etc.). It should be noted there are variants of the automated cart collection program, such as the modified cart program in which residents utilize a cart and may dispose of additional items by affixing a sticker. Staff could solicit proposals for variations of both the cart and volume-based programs as part of the RFP process if directed by the Village Council, although this would likely complicate the process of evaluating and reporting on the responses.

A summary comparison of the solid waste programs which are provided in other nearby communities is provided in the table below:

Municipality	Cart Program	Sticker Program	Unlimited Flat Rate	Recycling	Bulk Item Disposal	Notes
Lombard	X			No Additional Fee	Sticker Required	Residents are charged monthly for carts. Additional refuse requires stickers.
Glen Ellyn	X			No Additional Fee	Sticker Required	Residents are charged monthly for carts. Additional refuse requires stickers.
Wheaton		X		No Additional Fee	Sticker Required	Residents buy garbage stickers to place on the respective containers for pickup.
Elmhurst	X			No Additional Fee	1 sticker for first Item, 2 for each additional one	Residents are billed monthly to dispose of items in one 33-gallon container per week. Additional refuse requires a garbage sticker.
Carol Stream	X			No Additional Fee	Sticker Required	Residents pay a monthly fee for 65-gallon garbage toters.
Naperville			X	No Additional Fee	Included in regular pickup	Unlimited garbage pickup. Refuse must be placed in 32-gallon or smaller containers (unless larger carts are purchased from the city). Residents pay for garbage program via property taxes.

ATTACHMENTS

N/A

Refuse and Yard Waste Sticker, Revenue and Collection Tonnage Analysis

	STICKER PRICE			STICKERS SOLD			STICKER REVENUE GENERATED				TONNAGE COLLECTED		
Calendar Year	Beg Year Price	Date of Price Change	End Year Price	Refuse	Yard Waste	Total	Refuse	Yard Waste	Total	% Chng	Solid Waste	Recycling	Yard Waste
1999	1.50		1.50	652,497	229,000	881,497	978,746	343,500	1,322,246		12,665	6,986	3,074
2000	1.50	4/1/2000	1.80	660,500	230,000	890,500	1,139,363	396,750	1,536,113	16.2%	14,068	6,595	3,646
2001	1.80	4/1/2001	1.85	627,500	225,500	853,000	1,153,031	414,356	1,567,388	2.0%	13,693	6,648	4,958
2002	1.85		1.85	642,495	221,000	863,495	1,188,616	408,850	1,597,466	1.9%	13,619	6,345	2,938
2003	1.85	4/1/2003	2.10	629,000	244,500	873,500	1,281,588	498,169	1,779,756	11.4%	14,132	6,618	3,264
2004	2.10		2.10	626,997	225,662	852,659	1,316,694	473,890	1,790,584	0.6%	13,659	6,626	2,938
2005	2.10	4/1/2005	2.27	591,500	196,300	787,800	1,317,566	437,258	1,754,825	-2.0%	12,943	6,575	2,286
2006	2.27		2.27	570,500	220,150	790,650	1,295,035	499,741	1,794,776	2.3%	12,575	6,306	2,687
2007	2.27		2.27	548,600	194,250	742,850	1,245,322	440,948	1,686,270	-6.0%	12,219	6,908	2,450
2008	2.27	4/1/2008	2.85	620,636		620,636			1,678,820	-0.4%	11,149	6,383	3,368
2009	2.85	4/1/2010	2.96	585,000		585,000			1,715,513	2.2%	11,798	6,587	3,466

# of households served: 14,550
# of stickers per household per month in 2009 (refuse & yard waste): 3.35

****Note in April of 2008 the program changed to a single sticker for both refuse and yard waste.**

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