

City of Lawrence

Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB)

January 13, 2010 (5:30 PM) Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Eileen Horn, Beth Johnson, Matt Lehrman, Chad Luce, Megan Poindexter, Daniel Poull, Andrea Repinsky, Simran Sethi, Brian Sifton
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Sarah Hill-Nelson
STAFF PRESENT:	Tammy Bennett, Kathy Richardson
GUESTS PRESENT:	Commissioner Lance Johnson
PUBLIC PRESENT:	Eileen Smith, Dave Yates

Call Meeting to Order (Matt Lehrman, Chairperson)
Take Roll Call to Determine Quorum of Members

ANY PRESSING ITEMS

None.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion and second to approve the December 9, 2009 minutes (Poull/Poindexter).
Motion was passed unanimously.

Q&A with City Commissioner Lance Johnson

Matt Lehrman introduced City Commissioner Lance Johnson. The board discussed the following topics with Commissioner Johnson: top soils concerns, Farmland update, downtown attractions (outdoor restaurants, closing main street to pedestrians ideas), solid waste issues (recycling and PAYT), and Sustainability Coordinator update. When asked about the role of the Sustainability Advisory Board, Commissioner Johnson stated that the City Commissioners rely on the advisory boards and the expertise of their members. He commented on the a few items for SAB to think about for their goal setting session: recycling, solid waste issues and energy use in buildings.

Local Foods Policy Council Update

Daniel Poull is the SAB member representative on the Douglas County Local Foods Policy Council. Meeting minutes and agendas are posted on County's website: http://www.douglas-county.com/depts/ad/ad_localfoodpolicycouncil.aspx. Daniel announced that the council meets every other Monday at the Fire Station #5 located at 1911 Stewart Avenue at 6:30 pm. The council is working with Lawrence LiveWell and Simran Sethi's KU class. Also the Sustainability Coordinator once hired will attend these council meetings.

Staff Recycling Report and Summary

Tammy Bennett emailed SAB a document which outlines reports, efforts and discussions regarding increasing recycling in Lawrence since 2007 (see attached). This serves as an overview

for the new board members. Tammy also handed out a new cover memo which will be submitted to the City Commissioners along with the matrix of recycling options (see attached). The new cover memo emphasizes that staff recommends the SAB option described on the matrix. This information will be presented at a City Commission meeting soon. Staff will notify SAB once this item gets placed on the City Commission Agenda. Tammy added that the City Auditor will present information from the solid waste performance audit at the same meeting as the recycling discussion. In addition, Tammy announced that Bob Yoos, the City's Solid Waste Manager, is retiring. His last work day will be this Friday.

Andrea Repinsky commented on the SAB option described on the matrix. She stated that she would like to see some oversight of the recycling centers and added that as a neighbor of the 12th and Haskell Bargain Center, she has noted that there are some serious problems at this site (i.e. fires, trash nuisance).

Daniel Poull reminded SAB that Laura Routh emailed the link, *10 Steps for a Recycling Campaign*: (<http://www.mswmanagement.com/january-february-2010/recycling-outreach-campaign-1.aspx>).

Finalize Details for the Goal Setting Meeting

At the last board meeting, SAB agreed to schedule a goal setting session in March 2010 and to have a facilitator at this meeting. Staff suggested Lisa Patterson, the City of Lawrence former Communications Manager, as a good candidate to provide the service as facilitator.

Motion and second to approve Lisa Patterson as the facilitator of the goal setting session in March 2010 (Sethi/Poindexter). Motion was passed unanimously.

There was discussion of next steps:

1. *Choose a date, time and location.*
The board decided either March 3rd or March 10th at 5:00 pm would work. **Action:** Kathy will contact all board members and choose the date in which the majority of the board members can be present.
The board decided that the meeting rooms in the Lawrence Public Library, the Douglas County Health Department or the Fire Station #5 would work well. **Action:** Kathy will contact all three locations and ask about availability for the dates listed above.
2. *Notify the facilitator and agree on a scope of services.*
Action: Kathy will contact Lisa Patterson and discuss the scope of services which will include the facilitator meeting with the outgoing and incoming chair of SAB and also separately meeting with staff prior to the goal setting session.
3. *Request feedback on sustainability topics.*
The Board will request feedback from the public via a news release, a posting on the City's website, and direct email sent to stakeholders. **Action:** Kathy will update the previous year's new release and the email to the stakeholders and send these out.
4. *Complete board member surveys.*
The Board asked staff to check with the facilitator in development of the survey questions. **Action:** Kathy will work with Lisa Patterson on the survey questions and present these to SAB at their next board meeting. Each board member will be asked to submit their answers prior to the goal setting session.

Motion and second to send out a news release and an email to stakeholders soliciting feedback on sustainability topics prior to the goal setting session (Poull/Sethi). Motion was passed unanimously.

Brainstorm List of Potential Future Meeting Guests

Board members suggested the following potential future meeting guests: City Commissioner Mike Amyx, County Commissioner Nancy Thellman, Steven Apfelbaum with Applied Ecological Services, someone from the State Energy Office, KU Environs, KU Center for Sustainability or Provost or Chancellor, someone to speak about the new Engineering Building, Black & Veatch.

Motion and second to invite City Commissioner Mike Amyx to the next board meeting (Poindexter/Sethi). Motion was passed unanimously.

WRR Update

Kathy Richardson emailed SAB and briefly discussed the WRR December report (see attached).

Miscellaneous Announcements and/or Public Comment

Matt Lehrman announced that there is a 5 County Transportation Study Session (video meeting) on January 21, 2010 at 3:00 pm if anyone is interested in viewing this and reporting back to the board at the next meeting. He also announced that the sand mining plant proposal is no longer on the agenda of the January 25th Planning Commission meeting.

The Board received an email from a Les Blevins recently. Daniel Poull mentioned that Les has contacted SAB several times in the past regarding his project of burning biosolids in a way that does not emit carbon and generates energy. Matt Lehrman proposed that if any board member is interested in meeting with Les that they report back to the board.

There was follow up discussion on creating SAB signage to use at outreach events. Megan Poindexter said she spoke to a student graphic designer who is interested in helping design this signage at no fee. There was discussion on what size the sign(s) should be and what content/images to put on the sign(s). Staff informed SAB that one item they should include in their signage is the City's logo which is posted at <http://www.lawrenceks.org/identity>.

Motion and second to bring ideas about the content of the SAB signage to the next board meeting and continue the discussion of creating this signage (Sethi/Poindexter). Motion was passed unanimously.

Eileen Smith founder of the Kansas Solar Electric Cooperative commented that the Kansas Corporation Commission is using the acronym S.O.L.A.R. which she said is misleading because it has nothing to do with solar energy instead it stands for "Simplified On-Line Automated Reporting". She finds this behavior fraudulent and requests that SAB discuss and make a public comment about this behavior. Eileen also passed around a sun and wind energy magazine from Germany which she recommends board members to read. In addition, Eileen mentioned that she would be happy to present information about the Kansas Solar Electric Cooperative at a future SAB meeting if invited as a guest speaker. And Eileen mentioned that she would like SAB to consider proposing a committee or task force which would monitor the coal plants and emissions.

Chad Luce commented that the coal plant in Lawrence was built in the 1920s and Westar is investing 300 million dollars in the next 3 years to further reduce mercury emissions in order to stay ahead of the EPA regulations. When questioned about sequestering carbon, Chad stated that there is no commercially viable technology to sequester carbon in coal plants. Once the technology is available and proven effective, utilities across the country will be signing up for it.

Meeting adjourned 7:50 p.m.

Next meeting: February 10th, 2010 at 5:30 pm.

Attachments:

- Staff memo outlining reports, efforts and discussions regarding increasing recycling in Lawrence since 2007
- Revised staff memo and matrix on options to increase recycling in Lawrence
- Waste Reduction and Recycling Division Report



Waste Reduction and Recycling Division Report for the Sustainability Advisory Board (1/13/10)

FIBERS REPORT

OLD CORRUGATED CONTAINERS (OCC)

Cardboard	Tons	Revenue
Current YTD	1,295.87	\$76,118.40
Prior YTD	1,255.94	\$134,257.24
Avg. Price/ton thru Dec. 2009:	\$58.74	Avg. price/ton thru Dec. 2008: \$106.90

OLD NEWSPAPERS (ONP)

Newspaper	Tons	Revenue
Current YTD	565.83	\$24,283.69
Prior YTD	635.65	\$77,239.66
Avg. Price/ton thru Dec. 2009:	\$42.92	Avg. Price/ton thru Dec. 2008: \$121.51

OFFICE WASTE PAPER (SOP)

Sorted Office Paper	Tons	Revenue
Current YTD	61.61	\$8,059.40
Prior YTD	39.32	\$8,135.30
Avg. Price/ton thru Dec. 2009:	\$130.81	Avg. Price/ton thru Dec. 2008: \$206.90

MIXED WASTE PAPER (MIX)

Mixed Paper	Tons	Revenue
Current YTD	269.68	\$7,134.75
Prior YTD	186.23	\$14,712.01
Avg. Price/ton thru Dec. 2009:	\$26.46	Avg. Price/ton thru Dec. 2008: \$79.00

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>TONS</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
		2,192.98	\$115,596.24
Prior YTD		2,117.14	\$234,344.21

Notes: Tonnage collected almost exactly equals that of last year—what we didn't get in newspaper was collected as mixed paper. Also quite a bit more office paper was collected, relatively speaking. Revenues were not quite half. Market news: Up for January! Cardboard is up \$30/ton (we'll receive 110/ton) and Mixed Paper is up \$10 (we'll receive 70/ton). Newspaper market remained steady (we'll receive 75/ton).

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) PROGRAM REPORT

Month	HHW Drop-Offs	Battery Bags in Mail	Appt No Show	Home-bound	Saturday Collection	Abandoned Waste	Orphan Waste	SQG Inventory	SQG Drop-off	Product Reuse Appt
January	153	6	18	0	0	4	0	17	15	13
February	106	1	6	0	0	3	0	13	14	15
March	183	2	14	0	0	5	0	5	4	25
April	180	3	10	0	11	3	0	10	10	49
May	214	4	27	0	31	1	0	14	13	68
June	285	3	20	0	44	3	0	9	9	74
July	319	0	24	0	31	3	0	13	12	75
August	263	1	34	0	21	5	0	6	5	75
September	271	1	17	0	18	3	0	9	7	61
October	205	1	24	0	20	1	0	4	7	56
November	188	0	11	3	0	3	0	8	6	39
December	136	4	14	0	0	2	0	12	14	14

TOTAL	2503	26	219	3	176	36	0	120	116	564
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COMPOST PROGRAM

December collection data included 3 Monday pick-ups for yard waste and ended for the season on Monday, December 21st. Collection will resume on Monday, March 1, 2010, weather permitting.

73 landscapers paid for and utilized the Compost Facility in 2009, and 5 have already signed up for 2010. Based on this year's high usage volume of lawn care companies, staff time involved in monitoring usage and reporting and processing the material dropped off, and the cost of gate and fobs, the Division will charge a \$100 annual sign up fee per business which includes one fob and \$25 per additional fob.

The Christmas Tree-Cycling collection took place this season on the following 3 Mondays: Dec. 28, Jan. 4 and Jan. 11. On December 28th crews collected 188 trees (2.35 tons), January 4th 1,324 trees (16.55 tons), and January 11th 808 trees (10.1 tons).

The total numbers of Earth Machine compost bins and Kitchen Scrap pails distributed in 2009 were 164 and 106, respectively.

YARD TRIMMINGS COLLECTION: YEAR TO DATE

	Jan 2009	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	2009 TOTAL
Total Tons collected curbside	NA	NA	1,210.53	1,013.77	1,138.74	1,081.67	673.63	828.59	594.36	988.49	3354.98	211.87	11,096.63
Commercial YW received	1.9	17.1	180.2	182.8	238.1	202.3	239.1	177.9	228.6	192.7	298.9	38.4	1,998
Other YW received (Christmas Trees)	28.06 (2,245 trees)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2.35 (188 trees)	30.41
Total tons this month	29.96	17.1	1,390.73	1,196.57	1,376.84	1,283.97	912.73	1,006.49	822.96	1,181.19	3653.88	252.62	13,125.04
Average Preferred Container Compliance	NA	NA	98.9%	99.3%	99.5%	99.7%	99.8%	99.8%	99.6%	99.7%	99.4%	99.5%	99.5%

City of Lawrence
Public Works Department
MEMORANDUM

TO: David L. Corliss, City Manager
Chuck Soules, Public Works Director

FROM: Tammy Bennett, Assistant Public Works Director
Kathy Richardson, WRR Operations Supervisor

CC: Sustainability Advisory Board
Cynthia Wagner, Assistant City Manager

DATE: January 20, 2010

RE: CC regular agenda item 1/26/2010
Receive report / matrix on option to increase recycling in Lawrence

Attached is a Sustainability Advisory Board recommended pilot program to increase recycling in Lawrence, concentrating on existing service providers, increased data and accountability, and a significant public education and outreach campaign.

Background information:

In July 2009, the Lawrence City Commission established the following goal statement:
Facilitate public discussion and review of possible city sponsored curbside recycling program, including explore feasibility of a pilot program and in-depth review of possible program costs and benefits.

The Sustainability Advisory Board has also expressed long-standing interest in establishing a more robust curbside recycling program either operated by or contracted through the City.

Staff drafted a matrix of options, with primary focus on a 12 month pilot program for subscriber based curbside recycling services, in response to City Commission direction. The matrix was provided to the Sustainability Advisory Board in September 2009 and input was solicited from local recycling providers. The SAB reviewed the matrix and discussed options among the board and the private curbside recycling companies and managers of local recycling centers. SAB discussed these issues 9-9-09, 10-14-09, and 11-11-09. SAB finalized their own recommended approach to increasing recycling in Lawrence at this time. City staff is supportive of the SAB recommendation as well.

Recommendation:

Sustainability Advisory Board recommendation is for a public / private partnership to increase curbside recycling. The program would include a significant outreach and education campaign – ***Lawrence DOES have curbside***. The [recommendation developed by SAB](#) is the first one listed in the matrix. It has a mandatory registration requirement for companies to be included

in the media and outreach. No funding source has been identified for 2010 for the advertising and outreach campaign. Again, city staff is supportive of the SAB recommendation.

Action requested:

Receive options matrix for increasing recycling efforts. Direct staff to develop an implementation plan, budget estimates, and schedule for the preferred program.

Recycling discussion matrix

PILOT PROGRAM for public / private partnership to increase curbside Outreach program and campaign: Lawrence DOES have curbside Submitted by SAB to supplement original report		
	How it might look	Public / private partnership to support existing curbside companies, increased outreach campaign on Lawrence Does have curbside .
	How to accomplish	<p>SAB recommends recycling collection providers and recycling centers be registered by the City of Lawrence. Mandatory registration would require companies to provide City with information about collection, processing, and/or end-markets for materials, costs of services, service packages offered, and number of customers.</p> <p>The City would undertake a major education and outreach campaign – Lawrence DOES have curbside. The campaign would promote the curbside recycling options that are registered through the City. The outreach campaign would include newspaper, radio, web resources (budget to be determined). Another option would be to provide a consistent recycling bin with both city logo and company info for the private companies to give to their customers, as part of a branding or outreach effort. Data will be collected from registered haulers at the beginning of the outreach campaign and throughout process, to estimate effect on number of households participating in addition to any changes measured on the overall community recycling rate.</p>
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support local businesses who have been engaged in the efforts of curbside recycling for many years ▪ Deliver a consistent, positive message about the availability of local curbside recycling ▪ Mandatory registration of recycling companies will ensure the city receives accurate, timely data on customer counts, materials collected, and end markets ▪ If budget is available to provide uniform bins for materials, increases neighborhood visibility of curbside recycling programs ▪ Lawrence residents retain choice of curbside recycling with provider of their choice or drop-off opportunities
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Does not address concerns expressed by some that community is vulnerable to losing recycling outlets (many curbside companies use existing drop-offs for disposal of some of the materials) ▪ Subscription only service may not meet goals to increase curbside collection for “maybe” recyclers (those who might put out recycling if they were already paying for it and it was collected at the curb) ▪ Differential in services, materials collected and pricing ▪ May not provide revenue to cover costs of major education campaign and/or purchase of bins/totes ▪ Need to define what collection providers and recycling centers are covered by mandatory registration. For instance, is it just the curbside collectors plus the drop-off centers we think of (e.g., WalMart and 12th Street Bargain Center) or does it also include places that take oil, batteries, cfl’s, or electronics for recycling?

PILOT PROGRAM for curbside collection**Submitted by staff per CMO direction and CC goal statement****City subscription service, bi-weekly, 12 month pilot (collection and material processing)**

	How it might look	Bi-weekly residential curbside collection for a fee, by subscription, provided by the City of Lawrence. Pilot program would be limited to the number of households that could be handled by one truck (initial estimate is 2500 maximum)
	How to accomplish	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Keep rear load refuse truck that would have been traded in 2010 and dedicate to the recycling pilot▪ Hire 3 staff persons (2 would be temporary full time, with a regular full-time operator for the truck)▪ Recycling truck will operate 4 days per week with two person crew▪ Materials would be taken to closest possible material recovery facility by agreement (likely Deffenbaugh in Edwardsville)▪ Administrative staff would be required for establishing and coordinating new services (customer service, billing, inquiries). 50% time would be required for curbside account set ups, coordination. Other 50% time would administrative tasks for WRR (HHW appointments, compost access for landscapers, special events organization) [note, the division has a request pending to fill existing part-time temp for these tasks]▪ Subscription service would be billed through utility bills, similar to the way roll-out trash carts are currently managed▪ Monthly fee would be set initially to minimize advantage or disadvantage over the private companies currently providing services (e.g., at market rate roughly) -- \$10 per month (tbd)
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Provide 12 months of real data on all costs and advantages▪ Pilot program could be implemented relatively quickly but does not commit community one way or another▪ Does not require all rate-payers to pay for curbside but gives the option to those who want it▪ Will have least impact considered to the value or business of private companies providing services (curbside collection or drop-off / processing)▪ Good opportunity to "ramp up" to some of these services▪ In years 2 and beyond, costs will be adjusted to capture program costs more accurately, once minimum customer base is established
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Still a subscription based service▪ Competes directly with existing businesses (curbside & drop-off)▪ Does not realize the efficiencies of collecting from every house▪ Using older vehicle, and no back up equipment▪ Setting rates by market in first year, not cost of services▪ Distance to the closest facility is 35 miles one-way.
	IF it works well	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Can chose to expand the services on an incremental basis as business demands. For instance, in 2011, would move temporary employees to regular payroll, add one additional truck and one crew (driver / loader)
	IF it doesn't work	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Phase out subscription services. End temporary employees or reassign to vacant positions. Sell rear-load truck, as had originally been planned

ALTERNATIVES		
Goal assumption: The City Commission plans to establish curbside recycling for single family residential customers city-wide.		
Long term recommendation: The City will ensure access to the most reliable services if the city operates its own material recovery facility. Control of materials collected, marketing, operations. (3 to 5 years)		
City curbside program (collection and material processing)		
	How it might look	City would have collection equipment and a local material recovery facility for processing materials collected. Some very rough cost estimates are included in the report attached. Cost estimates provided in attached report , depending on how program is structured.
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will provide most secure program for long-term recycling by building and managing our own material recovery facility Maintain control of program—Items collected Customer service will be high – single point of contact (city) for recycling and solid waste
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of capitalization and start up (facility, equipment, staffing) Amount of time for implementation (locating facility, constructing, installation of equipment, etc.)
City curbside program (collection only, delivering materials to established material recovery facility)		
	How it might look	City would have collection equipment and staffing for curbside collection of materials. Loads would be hauled to contracted material recovery facility, such as the Deffenbaugh facility in Edwardsville. Cost estimates provided in attached report , depending on how program is structured.
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less expensive start up. Will require capitalization of equipment and some staffing, but not facility Customer service will be high – single point of contact for recycling collection and solid waste
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distance to the closest facility is 35 miles one-way. Estimated time per load to deliver is 1 hour 40 minutes (round trip including dump time) Cost of capitalization and start up (equipment only) Will not control material streams since we don't manage final outlet
Private curbside program (collection and material processing) by RFP		
	How it might look	City would contract for turnkey curbside collection services with a private company.
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fastest implementation Least expensive for start up, utilizing equipment and facilities of contracted company External validation of costs and expenses
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customer service not integrated Do not control program (materials collected or customer service) Distance to the closest facility is 35 miles one-way
Private curbside program ++ (collection and material processing) by RFP plus \$2-3 fee per month for long-term funding of local material recovery facility		
	How it might look	City would contract for turnkey curbside collection services with a private company. Additional fee would be added to monthly billing to build funds to finance construction of local material recovery facility. Local facility would benefit community whether collection services are

		completed with city crews or contracted.
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fast implementation ▪ Less expensive (like contracting) but builds solid funding structure for long-term sustainability of programs ▪ External validation of costs and expenses
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Same disadvantages as private curbside program, but with an eye toward increasing sustainability of programming long-term
Private curbside program – multiple companies (collection and material processing)		
	How it might look	Several options on structure such as dividing community into designated areas and assigning collectors to areas
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supports local, existing businesses with established customer bases ▪ Citizens have options for vendors, IF contractors are not assigned designated areas
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lose economy of scale ▪ Must verify contractors have established, reliable outlets for materials ▪ May be chaotic from customer service perspective (who manages calls, who manages complaints) ▪ Varying levels of service ▪ Difficult to manage / monitor outlets and processing ▪ Dependent on multiple small companies, most of whom depend on other companies for materials outlets ▪ Challenge to handle monthly billing processes
Goal assumption: The City Commission wants to increase the convenience and access to recycling opportunities, without implementing full curbside program.		
Partner with local curbside companies to promote services		
	How it might look	City would provide promotional services for curbside companies. Information on curbside collection companies would be distributed regularly with utility billing so residents who wish to contract for services have the information readily available. Information also provided through the media (LJW and UDK) to cover residents who do not receive utility bills.
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimal cost to city but provide residents with information they want on curbside collection companies ▪ Supports local, existing businesses with established customer bases
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dependent on multiple small companies, most of whom depend on other companies for materials outlets ▪ Subscription only service may not meet goals to increase curbside collection for “maybe” recyclers (those who might put out recycling if they were already paying for it and it was collected at the curb) ▪ Differential in services, materials collected and pricing
Expanded drop off locations for recyclables		
	How it might look	<p>Variety of possibilities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ duplication of Wal-Mart style drop-off facility in one or more additional locations ▪ contract placement of multiple-material collections containers (example at Wal-Mart parking lot off Wanamaker in Topeka)
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased convenience over current system (more drop off locations) ▪ Public would not feel “dependent” on Wal-Mart or 12th St Bargain

		Center for recycling
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cost if constructing Wal-Mart style collection facilities (facility, equipment, staffing) ▪ No centralization of materials that would maximize possible revenues ▪ Drop-off sites (unstaffed) become dumping grounds for other materials ▪ Code compliance (site planning, aesthetics) for multiple sites ▪ Shipping materials from multiple drop-off sites with no central material recovery facility

ATTACH:

[Matrix from rate study](#)

[Olathe program description](#)

[Evaluation of Solid Waste Diversion Strategies report](#)

attachment info from rate study

Comparison of Residential Solid Waste Rates and Services for 2010

Information current as of May 2009

City	Once a Week Trash Collection proposed 2009 Increase	Yard Waste	Tire Collection	Bulk Item Collection	Appliance Disposal	Curbside recycling	Public / private	Curbside fee
Lawrence	\$13.10 (2009 Rate) \$13.76 (5% increase proposed for 2010)	Free	Free	Free	Free	yes	private	varies \$12 to \$15 / month
Columbia	\$14.42 (2009 Rate) (No increase proposed for 2010)	Free	No	Free	\$10.00/item	yes	public	included (landfill fees subsidize)
Emporia	\$12.79 (2009 Rate) \$14.07 (10% increase proposed for 2010)	No	\$2.51-5.40/tire	No	\$22.80/item	yes	private	\$15 / month
Leavenworth	\$15.09 (2009 Rate) \$16.30 (8% increase proposed for 2010) (Also property tax subsidy)	No	Free	Free	Free	No	na	na
Manhattan (Private Haulers)	\$18.00 (2009 Rate) (possible increase for 2010)	No	\$10.00 to 25.00/tire	\$10.00 to 50.00/item	\$40.00/item	No	na	na
Newton	\$18.75 (2009 Rate)	No	\$6.00/tire	\$15.00 per item	\$20.00 per item	yes	public	included & mandatory
Olathe	\$16.00 (2009 Rate) \$18.50 (15.7% increase proposed for 2010)	Free	\$5.00/tire	\$16.00/15 min.	\$30.00/item	yes	public	\$3.29 (2009) free (2010)
Overland Park (Private Haulers)	\$13.75 - 18.00 (2009 Rate)	\$40.00 per year	Up to \$35.00 per tire	\$35.00 and up / item	\$60.00- 75.00/item	varies by vendor	private	\$2.95 / mn
Salina	\$12.60 - 14.91 (2009 Rate)	Free	Up to \$22.00 per tire	\$20.10 and up	No	yes	public	\$10 initial + \$4.90 / mn
Shawnee County	\$11.44 - 16.50 (2009 Rate) (5% increase possible for 2010)	No	No	Free (1 item/week)	\$45.00 minimum charge	yes	private	varies \$15 / month
Wichita (Private Haulers)	\$17.00 - \$19.80 (2009 Rate)	No	No	\$20.00 to 100.00/item	No	yes	private	\$4.50 / mn and up

CITY OF OLATHE PROGRAM

City of Olathe operated a subscription based curbside recycling program for 12 years. The subscription service provided curbside recycling to approximately 1/3 of households, and was subsidized by the regular single family residential trash rate.

Solid waste is collected in Olathe and transported to Hamm's Landfill through a public / private partnership transfer station. The city currently pays approximately \$30 per ton for solid waste at the transfer point. The transfer station is reaching capacity. The community must rebuild or expand the transfer station or decrease waste managed through it. The City of Olathe commissioned a study of alternatives and recommendations from RW Beck. Based on that analysis, in 2010, Olathe will move to a citywide program. The citywide program will delay the reconstruction or expansion of the transfer station.

RW Beck Study: Scope of services and results can be attached. The RW Beck Study was \$53,500 for the initial 6 phases, with the final 3 phases being charged on a per hour basis.

How the city-wide program will be implemented:

- The city is transitioning 5 vehicles currently assigned to weekly curbside recycling collection *by subscription* to bi-weekly citywide curbside collection.
- The city is adding one truck and operating by re-assigning out of service side-load trucks to the recycling function rather than trading it in.
- There will be a total of six trucks assigned – 4 side-loaders and 2 curb-sorters.
- The side-load trucks will transport collected materials directly to Deffenbaugh, roughly 10 miles.
- The curb-sorters are less efficient at the single stream collection. Material from the curb-sorters will be transferred to 40-yard roll-off containers to be transported to Deffenbaugh.
- Total trip time per load transported: 1 hour
- Estimated revenue from materials dumped at the material recovery facility: \$25 / ton
- Containers: using 65-gallon containers provided by the city of Olathe
- Long-term goal is to build a material recovery facility for municipal recycling. The City of Olathe will complete an RFP in 2010 for a MRF and transfer station operations. They might be interested in partnering with other communities along the K-10 corridor, if other communities were willing to make the commitment to the MRF.

Description of solid waste program for 2010:

- Single family residential rates in 2010 will be \$18.50 per month. The residential rate will include:
 - Once a week collection of trash from a 90-gallon cart
 - Once a week collection of yard waste
 - Bi-weekly collection of single-stream recycling using 65-gallon cart (no glass)
- Fees for additional services. Any item that cannot fit inside a 90 gallon cart is considered a bulk item. Bulk items are charged as follows:
 - \$17.50 minimum per stop, up to 15 minutes of collection time
 - \$30 per item containing Freon (air conditioner, refrigerators)
- Solid Waste Connection fees. The city requires a one-time solid waste connection fee of \$170 per water meter. The fee covers the initial capital outlay for the carts provided for trash and recycling services, plus 1/2000 of a truck. The solid waste connection fees were implement in 2007, in conjunction with a new rate model developed by RW Beck.

EVALUATION OF WASTE DIVERSION STRATEGIES FOR LAWRENCE 2009 UPDATE

Introduction

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The Solid Waste Division looked at waste diversion strategies for Lawrence in 2004 and concluded in that report that the current recycling strategy should be continued and expanded on. Recycling opportunities, both public and private, had achieved a 34 percent recycling rate in 2003 which was believed to be the highest in the state and higher than typically achieved utilizing curbside collection of recyclables. Specific recommendations in the 2004 report were:

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2. Expand newspaper, cardboard and office paper recycling programs to additional entities (such as schools) and provide additional drop-off sites;
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4. Increase public education on waste reduction.

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subscribe to these services for a monthly fee. Several levels of services offered at varying price points (generally \$7-16 per month) are available from these businesses.

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Two cost estimates were developed (see attachments) for curbside collection: one for a city-operated collection and operation of a Material Recovery Facility (MRF) for processing (sorting, baling, contaminant removal, loading onto transport trailers, etc.) and one for city-operated collection and direct daily transportation to the Deffenbaugh Industries Material Recovery Facility in Edwardsville, Kansas. That is the only MRF in the area. Estimates for both scenarios were developed for weekly or biweekly collection of recyclables (see table below).

COST COMPARISONS FOR CITY-OPERATED CURBSIDE COLLECTION OF RECYCLABLES

	<u>City-operated MRF</u>		<u>Transport to Edwardsville MRF</u>	
Collection frequency:	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Biweekly</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Biweekly</u>
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(1) City-Operated MRF: **AVERAGE COST PER YEAR (attachment i) plus AVERAGE COST PER YEAR (attachment ii) divided by 22,000**

Transport to Edwardsville: **AVERAGE COST PER YEAR (attachment i) plus AVERAGE COST PER YEAR (attachment iii) divided by 22,000**

Note: Typically fewer recyclables are collected with biweekly collection than with weekly collection

While the lowest cost estimate is for collecting recyclables biweekly and transporting the recyclables to Edwardsville, that alternative carries more uncertainty. Volatile fuel prices could increase that cost significantly as the miles driven per vehicle are more than doubled. Vehicles will have to be replaced more frequently due to higher mileage and increased wear and tear. More personnel and

vehicles may be needed because a significant portion of the work day will be dedicated to driving to and from the MRF rather than collecting recyclables. Perhaps the greatest risk is that we would be dependent on a privately owned facility that may not always want our recyclables or may ask for payment for taking those recyclables. Since we would be delivering loose, unprocessed recyclables with a high possibility of contaminants in relatively small loads, the operators of the MRF may not find our material desirable, especially in a down market such as we are in now. The result would be that we have no market for our recyclables and would instead find ourselves with an accumulation of recyclables and likely discontinuing their collection. We would also receive much lower revenues due to delivering unprocessed, loose recyclables.

Benefit

The single greatest benefit would be that of convenience to the household but they would pay the monthly rate to receive that benefit. Currently, we estimate that 2,000-3,000 households choose to pay one of the five privately-operated collection businesses for the convenience of having their recyclables collected at the curbside.

It is important to remember, but often misunderstood, that a great deal of the material that would be collected with a curbside collection program is already being collected through existing programs in Lawrence. A curbside collection program would greatly reduce the amount of material being collected at the Wal-Mart Community Recycling Center, the 12th and Haskell Recycling Center, by private curbside recycling businesses (they would be out of business), and through the city-operated drop-off facilities.

The actual increase in material recycled with a city-operated curbside collection program is likely to be less than 2,000 tons in addition to the 20,414 tons recycled in 2007. The additional tonnage would largely be paper that is not currently being recycled.

Contracted Curbside Collection of Recyclables to a Private Provider

The city could choose to put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a private provider for curbside collection services. A private company should provide turnkey services taking responsibility for collection, processing, marketing and also customer service responsibilities. There are several large companies within the region that have the capability of providing such services.

There are currently five privately owned small businesses that provide curbside collection of recyclables to customers that choose to subscribe to their services in Lawrence. These businesses utilize existing drop-off sites (Wal-Mart, 12th and Haskell Recycling Center, Lonnie's recycling, and city-operated drop-off sites) to deposit the recyclables they collect. It is staff's opinion that none of these small proprietors would have the resources to provide turnkey service to 22,000 households.

Staff also believes that if a program for curbside collection were to be pursued, the option of using a qualified private provider would be the preferred option. The provider would assume all costs and risks and the city would have a known cost depending on what was agreed on in a contract. It is likely that the costs would be lower than if the city operated the program because large recycling providers already have personnel, equipment, infrastructure, implementation experience and more leverage in recycled materials markets.

Issues and Concerns

Recycling Markets

Markets for recyclables, similar to the stock market, can be highly volatile. Currently recycling markets are at historic lows. For this reason, it is not good policy to develop programs expecting revenues for sales of recyclable materials to pay for the programs. In fact, some markets, glass for example, are negative meaning that one must pay to get rid of the material. Many communities have discontinued collection of glass. Mixed paper is also a dead market currently. Paper mills are not purchasing mixed paper at this time due to low demand for products.

Customer Satisfaction

It is difficult to predict what the level of customer satisfaction would be with different recycling scenarios. The 2008 Recycling Survey revealed that 72 percent of Lawrence citizens currently recycle which is a very high number. It also indicated that 59.6 percent of citizens would pay \$6.00 per month for curbside collection of recyclables. However, as the price went above \$6.00, willingness to pay went down. Only 45.2 percent were willing to pay \$9.00, 21.8 percent were willing to pay \$12.00 and 15.5 percent were willing to pay \$15.00.

The 2007 Citizen Survey indicated 86 percent of residents were satisfied with residential trash service which was termed a very high rating.

Variable Rate Pricing for Residential Trash

Variable rate pricing, commonly referred to as “pay-as you-throw” (PAYT) is used in many communities. Under PAYT, residents are usually charged by the number of cans or bags they set out for collection. PAYT is most common in communities faced with long hauls to the nearest disposal site or those with relatively little space left in the local landfill, both of which can create very high disposal costs.

Commercial collection rates in Lawrence are already under a variable rate system since the monthly fee is based on the size of dumpster and the frequency of collection for each customer. Those rates are set to include the cost of providing current recycling services to commercial entities.

Residential rates are the same for each ratepayer but they cover much more than the cost of trash disposal. They also pay for bulky item collection, tire collections, white goods collection and Freon recovery, residential recycling drop-off sites, the household hazardous waste facility, yard waste collection and composting, a portion of the electronics collection events, and waste reduction and public education and outreach efforts.

There is almost no direct correlation with the amount of material disposed of in the landfill and the monthly residential trash rate. In 2008, actual disposal fees were ten percent (10%) of the residential fee. The other 90 percent supported the personnel and equipment necessary to provide scheduled collection to each home, the above mentioned recycling programs, and overhead and administration costs.

Reliability of Analysis

The Solid Waste staff has confidence that the analysis options and estimates of costs contained in this report are reasonably reliable. However, detailed estimates for construction and real estate costs were not conducted. In addition fuel costs are predicted to be potentially highly volatile in the future. If curbside collection of recyclables or variable rate pricing options were to be considered further, we would recommend a third party analysis be provided by a professional solid waste consultant that would focus on the feasibility of curbside recycling and PAYT including, but not limited to:

- cost;
- benefits;
- and implementation.

Plans for Increased Waste Diversion

Source Reduction

The Solid Waste Division supports and encourages product stewardship to reduce materials in the waste stream such as a state-wide beverage container deposit law (bottle bill) which would create take-back programs that would remove beverage containers from the waste stream reducing collection, disposal and recycling costs, and reduce litter. Stores that will take back used electronics or other goods are other examples of product stewardship.

Public education and outreach programs have been put into place although funding was reduced in 2008 due to fiscal restraints. We hope to expand on these when possible.

Recycling

The Division is continuing the increase in paper recycling through city drop-off sites and commercial collection programs. Current market constraints have slowed the expansion.

Additional electronics collection events are planned for 2009.

Public education is seen as a key to increased recycling as more people become aware of existing recycling opportunities and the positive environmental benefits from recycling.

attachment i

ESTIMATED COSTS FOR CURBSIDE COLLECTION OF RECYCLABLES

(Present year 2009 dollars; cost of debt or bonds not included)

Note: Does not include costs of a Materials Recovery Facility or transportation to a nearby Material Recovery Facility (MRF)

<u>COLLECTION COSTS</u>	<u>Weekly Collection</u>	<u>Biweekly Collection</u>
<u>Start-Up Costs</u>		
Collection vehicles	\$4,000,000 \$200,000 ea. plus 3 standby	\$2,200,000 \$200,000 ea. plus 2 standby
Field Supervisor vehicles	66,000 3 vehicles @ \$22,000 ea.	44,000 2 vehicles @ \$22,000 ea.
Recycling containers	900,000 45,000 @ \$20 ea.	1,360,000 68,000 @ \$20 ea.
Miscellaneous	50,000 Computers, radios, etc.	45,000 Computers, radios, etc.
Operations facility/land	750,000 Office, parking, crew area	750,000 Office, parking, crew area
SUBTOTAL	\$5,766,000	\$4,399,000
<u>Annual Operational Costs</u>		
Operator I	\$1,064,000 19 @ \$56,000 incl/benefits	\$616,000 11 @ \$56,000 incl/benefits
Field Supervisor	180,000 3 @ \$60,000 incl/benefits	120,000 2 @ \$60,000 incl/benefits
Laborer	90,000 2 @ \$45,000 incl/benefits	90,000 2 @ \$45,000 incl/benefits
Administrative Support position	45,000 \$45,000 incl/benefits	45,000 \$45,000 incl/benefits
Collection vehicle fuel	210,834 \$14,040 fuel/collection vehicle	111,618 \$14,040 fuel/collection vehicle
Collection vehicle maintenance	174,600 \$9,700 maint. ea.	106,700 \$9,700 maint. ea.
Supervisor vehicle fuel/maintenance	9,000 \$2,000 fuel; \$1,000 maint. ea.	6,000 \$2,000 fuel; \$1,000 maint. ea.
Recycling container replacement	160,000 8,000 @ \$20 ea.	160,000 8,000 @ \$20 ea.
Education/promotion	30,000 Newspapers, radio, fliers, etc.	30,000 Newspapers, radio, fliers, etc.
Utilities, overhead	12,000 Gas, electrical, custodial, etc.	12,000 Gas, electrical, custodial, etc.
Miscellaneous	25,000 Uniforms, office supplies, etc.	25,000 Uniforms, office supplies, etc.
Contingency	75,000 Unexpected expenses	75,000 Unexpected expenses
SUBTOTAL	\$2,075,434	\$1,397,318
TOTAL COSTS OVER 7 YEARS	\$20,294,038	\$14,180,226
AVERAGE COST PER YEAR	\$2,899,148	\$2,025,747

Assumptions

Households participating (excludes multi-family complexes of 3 or more units): 22,000

One person collection vehicle with curbside sorting

Cost of fuel/gallon (in dollars) 3.18 (Source: Department of Energy/EIA, December, 2008)

Actual collection time/day (hours) 7

Stops/route/day - weekly: 320

Collection vehicles/day - weekly: 17 (hybrid vehicles)

Stops/route/day - biweekly: 300

Collection vehicles/day - biweekly: 9 (hybrid vehicles)

Four routes/week/collection vehicle

225 miles/week/collection vehicle = 11,700 mi./yr.

Collection vehicle gets 3.0 mpg on route

Costs amortized over 7 years

attachment ii

ESTIMATED COSTS FOR MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY

(Present year 2009 dollars; cost of debt or bonds not included)

CAPITAL COSTS

Processing Building	\$1,040,000	In addition to office/crew area
Supervisor vehicle	22,000	1 vehicle @ \$22,000
Processing Equipment	900,000	Balers, forklifts, conveyors, etc.
Miscellaneous	25,000	Computer, safety equipment, etc.
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$1,987,000</u>	

Annual Operational Costs

Laborers	\$270,000	6 @ \$45,000 incl/benefits
Supervisor	60,000	1 @ \$60,000 incl/benefits
Administrative Support position	45,000	\$45,000 incl/benefits
Processing equipment maintenance	20,000	Fuel, lubricants, moving parts, etc.
Supervisor vehicle fuel/maintenance	3,000	\$2,000 fuel; \$1,000 maint.
Utilities, overhead	48,000	Gas, electric, custodial, etc.
Contingency	75,000	unexpected expenses
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$521,000</u>	

TOTAL COSTS OVER 7 YEARS	\$5,634,000
AVERAGE COST PER YEAR	\$804,857

Assumptions

Cost of fuel/gallon (in dollars)	3.18
Costs amortized over 7 years	

attachment iii

ESTIMATED COSTS FOR TRANSPORTATION OF RECYCLABLES TO A NEARBY MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY (MRF)

Closest MRF is the Deffenbaugh facility in Edwardsville, KS
(Present year 2009 dollars; cost of debt or bonds not included)

<u>ADDITIONAL COSTS</u>	<u>Weekly Collection</u>		<u>Biweekly Collection</u>	
<u>Start-Up Costs</u>				
Collection vehicles	\$600,000	\$200,000 ea.	\$400,000	\$200,000 ea.
Collection vehicle replacement	<u>\$3,300,000</u>	20 @ \$220,000 ea. (0.75 cost*)	<u>\$1,815,000</u>	11 @ \$220,000 ea. (0.75 cost*)
SUBTOTAL	\$3,900,000		\$2,215,000	
<u>Annual Operational Costs</u>				
Operator I	\$168,000	3 @ \$56,000 incl/benefits	\$112,000	2 @ \$56,000 incl/benefits
Collection vehicle fuel	205,810	\$9,707 fuel/collection vehicle	113,195	\$9,707 fuel/collection vehicle
Collection vehicle maintenance	100,000	\$5,000 maint. ea.	55,000	\$5,000 maint. ea.
Turnpike tolls	33,280	One trip/day	18,304	One trip/day
Contingency	<u>25,000</u>	Unexpected expenses	<u>25,000</u>	Unexpected expenses
SUBTOTAL	\$532,090		\$323,499	
TOTAL COSTS OVER 7 YEARS	\$7,624,627		\$4,479,495	
AVERAGE COST PER YEAR	\$1,089,232		\$639,928	

Assumptions with transportation of recyclables to a nearby MRF

Households participating (excludes multi-family complexes of 3 or more units): 22,000

One person collection vehicle with curbside sorting

Cost of fuel/gallon (in dollars) 3.18 (Source: Department of Energy/EIA, December, 2008)

Actual collection time/day (hours) 6

Stops/route/day - weekly: 275

Additional coll. vehicles - weekly: 3 (hybrid vehicles)

Stops/route/day - biweekly: 250

Additional coll. vehicles - biweekly: 2 (hybrid vehicles)

Four routes/week/collection vehicle

Additional 280 miles/week/collection vehicle = 14,560

mi./yr.

Collection vehicle gets 5.4 mpg on highway

Turnpike toll per round trip \$8.00

* Collection vehicles replaced every 4 years (allocate 0.75 of cost to 7-year analysis)

Costs amortized over 7 years

City of Lawrence
Public Works Department
MEMORANDUM

Distribution to
SAB members at
meeting 1-13-10

TO: Sustainability Advisory Board

FROM: Tammy Bennett, Assistant Public Works Director
Kathy Richardson, WRR Operations Supervisor

CC: Charles Soules, Public Works Director

DATE: January 11, 2010

This memo outlines reports, efforts, and discussions regarding increasing recycling in Lawrence since 2007. The goal is to capture the various discussions and efforts into a single location to serve as a foundation for SAB members for upcoming policy discussions by the City Commission.

[Recycling Survey](#)

- The Sustainability Advisory Board requested professional survey regarding recycling in 2007.
- The ETC Institute administered the survey in March 2008 to a random sample of 711 residents. ETC presented final results to the City Commission on September 16, 2008. See [executive summary](#) below.
- The City Commission requested that staff update the Solid Waste Division 2004 report on waste diversion strategies, and report back to the City commission.

[Evaluation of Waste Diversion Strategies for Lawrence](#) (staff report)

- The staff report on the Evaluation of Waste Diversion Strategies for Lawrence was completed and submitted to the City Manager's office in February 2009 for internal review and discussion.
- The City Manager forwarded the refined report to the City Commission informally in July 2009 but was not included on a City Commission agenda for formal report.
- The staff report was presented to the Sustainability Advisory Board at their meeting, July 15, 2009. (SAB deferred from June meeting)

City Commission goal

- In July 2009, the City Commission established the following goal statement:
Facilitate public discussion and review of possible city sponsored curbside recycling program, including explore feasibility of a pilot program and in-depth review of possible program costs and benefits.

[Matrix of options for expansion of curbside recycling in Lawrence](#)

- City staff developed a matrix outlining a variety of options to expand convenient recycling opportunities for Lawrence residents. The initial matrix was shared with the City Commission as part of an update on the status of goals (9-11-09 City Manager report item).
- The Sustainability Advisory Board reviewed the matrix of recycling options (Sept – November meetings which included several of the local recycling providers) and developed a SAB recommended option to the recycling matrix. That document was forwarded to the City Commission, via consent agenda, December 1, 2009. The action requested on the City Commission agenda was to receive report from staff in January 2010.

[SAB memo regarding evaluation of diversion strategies](#)

- The Sustainability Advisory Board also submitted to the City Commission their comments and considerations relating to the 2009 Evaluation of Waste Diversion Strategies staff report. The SAB memo was also received, via consent agenda, at the December 1, 2009, meeting.

Staff plans to revise the matrix of recycling memo to highlight the SAB recommendation. That will be considered by the City Commission at a meeting in January, tentatively scheduled for January 26, 2010. At the January meeting, the City Commission will also receive the Solid Waste Division Audit. The city auditor reviewed a number of the items listed above in the completion of his report.

Attachments to memo:

[Recycling Survey \(2008\), Executive Summary](#)

[Evaluation of Solid Waste Diversion Strategies \(2009\), staff report](#)

[Recycling Options Matrix \(2009\), staff report with SAB recommendation added](#)

[Sustainability Advisory Board memo regarding evaluation of diversion strategies](#)

Executive Summary

Purpose and Methodology

The City of Lawrence conducted a survey of residents to gather input to help City leaders better understand the recycling needs of the community.

The survey was administered, in March of 2008, to a random sample of 711 residents. The overall results of the survey have a precision of at least $\pm 3.7\%$ at the 95% level of confidence.

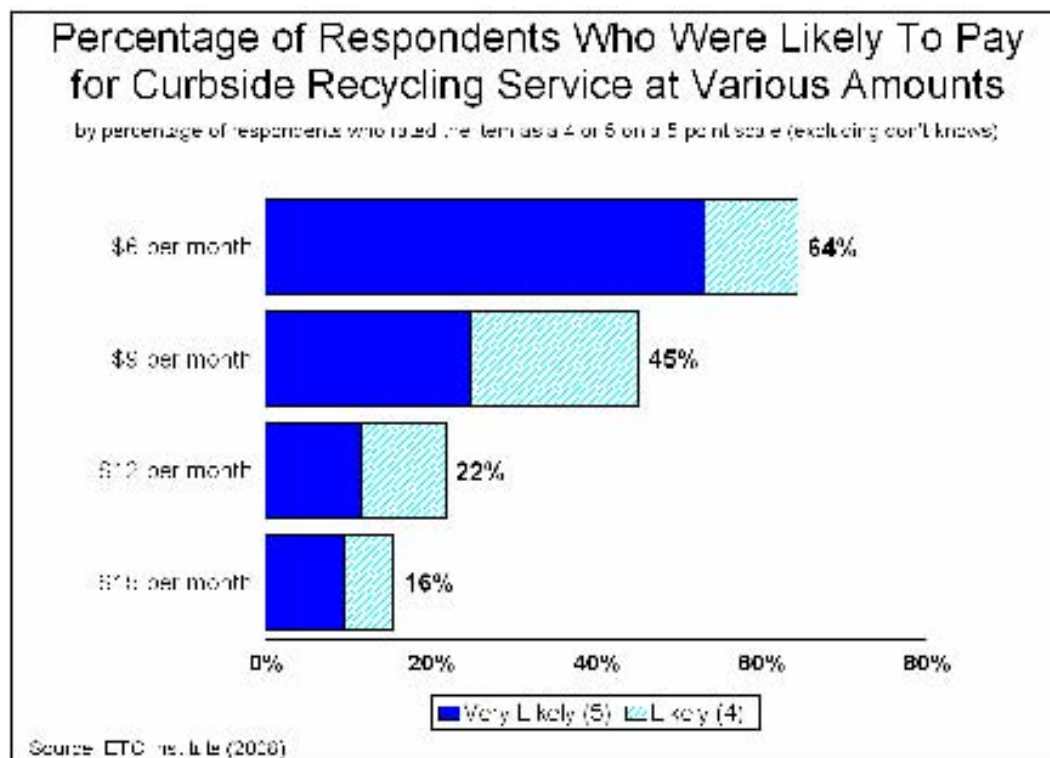
This report contains the following items:

- summary of the purpose and methodology
- charts and graphs that show the overall results of the survey
- tabular data
- copy of the survey instrument

Major Findings

- Seventy-nine percent (79%) of those surveyed thought it was either “very important” or “somewhat important” to have citywide curbside recycling; 12% did not think it was important and 9% did not have an opinion.
- Seventy-three percent (73%) of those surveyed indicated that they currently recycle and 27% indicated that they do not recycle. Of those respondents that do not currently recycle, the three most frequently selected reasons for **NOT** recycling were:
 - a matter of convenience
 - a matter of space
 - a matter of time

- Fifty-eight percent (58%) of those surveyed thought the City of Lawrence should begin to provide citywide curbside recycling service; 23% thought they City should continue to encourage residents to use private curbside recycling services and 19% did not have an opinion.
- Residents were asked how likely they would be to pay for curbside recycling service if it were offered by the City of Lawrence at various monthly prices. When the cost was \$6 per month, 64% of those surveyed, who had an opinion, indicated that would be "very likely" or "likely" to pay for curbside recycling service. When the cost was raised to \$9 per month the percentage of respondents that would be "very likely" or "likely" to pay for curbside recycling service dropped 45%. The results for each pricing level are shown in the chart below:



EVALUATION OF WASTE DIVERSION STRATEGIES FOR LAWRENCE 2009 UPDATE

Introduction

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Cost estimates were developed for providing curbside collection of recyclables utilizing city resources. Curbside collection could be provided primarily to 20,000-22,000 one to four-unit houses (out of approximately 37,800 total housing units). Larger complexes are typically served by containers (dumpsters) and not suitable for curbside collection. Some neighborhoods would not be able to receive curbside collection of recyclables because they too are served by containers (e.g. Oread Neighborhood) due to the high density of housing and parking needs.

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are in now. The result would be that we have no market for our recyclables and would instead find ourselves with an accumulation of recyclables and likely discontinuing their collection. We would also receive much lower revenues due to delivering unprocessed, loose recyclables.

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The single greatest benefit would be that of convenience to the household but they would pay the monthly rate to receive that benefit. Currently, we estimate that 2,000-3,000 households choose to pay one of the five privately-operated collection businesses for the convenience of having their recyclables collected at the curbside.

It is important to remember, but often misunderstood, that a great deal of the material that would be collected with a curbside collection program is already being collected through existing programs in Lawrence. A curbside collection program would greatly reduce the amount of material being collected at the Wal-Mart Community Recycling Center, the 12th and Haskell Recycling Center, by private curbside recycling businesses (they would be out of business), and through the city-operated drop-off facilities.

The actual increase in material recycled with a city-operated curbside collection program is likely to be less than 2,000 tons in addition to the 20,414 tons recycled in 2007. The additional tonnage would largely be paper that is not currently being recycled.

Contracted Curbside Collection of Recyclables to a Private Provider

The city could choose to put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a private provider for curbside collection services. A private company should provide turnkey services taking responsibility for collection, processing, marketing and also customer service responsibilities. There are several large companies within the region that have the capability of providing such services.

There are currently five privately owned small businesses that provide curbside collection of recyclables to customers that choose to subscribe to their services in Lawrence. These businesses utilize existing drop-off sites (Wal-Mart, 12th and Haskell Recycling Center, Lonnie's recycling, and city-operated drop-off sites) to deposit the recyclables they collect. It is staff's opinion that none of these small proprietors would have the resources to provide turnkey service to 22,000 households.

Staff also believes that if a program for curbside collection were to be pursued, the option of using a qualified private provider would be the preferred option. The provider would assume all costs and risks and the city would have a known cost depending on what was agreed on in a contract. It is likely that the costs would be lower than if the city operated the program because large recycling providers already have personnel, equipment, infrastructure, implementation experience and more leverage in recycled materials markets.

Issues and Concerns

Recycling Markets

Markets for recyclables, similar to the stock market, can be highly volatile. Currently recycling markets are at historic lows. For this reason, it is not good policy to develop programs expecting revenues for sales of recyclable materials to pay for the programs. In fact, some markets, glass for example, are negative meaning that one must pay to get rid of the material. Many communities have discontinued collection of

glass. Mixed paper is also a dead market currently. Paper mills are not purchasing mixed paper at this time due to low demand for products.

Customer Satisfaction

It is difficult to predict what the level of customer satisfaction would be with different recycling scenarios. The 2008 Recycling Survey revealed that 72 percent of Lawrence citizens currently recycle which is a very high number. It also indicated that 59.6 percent of citizens would pay \$6.00 per month for curbside collection of recyclables. However, as the price went above \$6.00, willingness to pay went down. Only 45.2 percent were willing to pay \$9.00, 21.8 percent were willing to pay \$12.00 and 15.5 percent were willing to pay \$15.00.

The 2007 Citizen Survey indicated 86 percent of residents were satisfied with residential trash service which was termed a very high rating.

Variable Rate Pricing for Residential Trash

Variable rate pricing, commonly referred to as “pay-as you-throw” (PAYT) is used in many communities. Under PAYT, residents are usually charged by the number of cans or bags they set out for collection. PAYT is most common in communities faced with long hauls to the nearest disposal site or those with relatively little space left in the local landfill, both of which can create very high disposal costs.

Commercial collection rates in Lawrence are already under a variable rate system since the monthly fee is based on the size of dumpster and the frequency of collection for each customer. Those rates are set to include the cost of providing current recycling services to commercial entities.

Residential rates are the same for each ratepayer but they cover much more than the cost of trash disposal. They also pay for bulky item collection, tire collections, white goods collection and Freon recovery, residential recycling drop-off sites, the household hazardous waste facility, yard waste collection and composting, a portion of the electronics collection events, and waste reduction and public education and outreach efforts.

There is almost no direct correlation with the amount of material disposed of in the landfill and the monthly residential trash rate. In 2008, actual disposal fees were ten percent (10%) of the residential fee. The other 90 percent supported the personnel and equipment necessary to provide scheduled collection to each home, the above mentioned recycling programs, and overhead and administration costs.

Reliability of Analysis

The Solid Waste staff has confidence that the analysis options and estimates of costs contained in this report are reasonably reliable. However, detailed estimates for construction and real estate costs were not conducted. In addition fuel costs are predicted to be potentially highly volatile in the future. If curbside collection of recyclables or variable rate pricing options were to be considered further, we would recommend a third party analysis be provided by a professional solid waste consultant that would focus on the feasibility of curbside recycling and PAYT including, but not limited to:

- cost;
- benefits;

- and implementation.

Plans for Increased Waste Diversion

Source Reduction

The Solid Waste Division supports and encourages product stewardship to reduce materials in the waste stream such as a state-wide beverage container deposit law (bottle bill) which would create take-back programs that would remove beverage containers from the waste stream reducing collection, disposal and recycling costs, and reduce litter. Stores that will take back used electronics or other goods are other examples of product stewardship.

Public education and outreach programs have been put into place although funding was reduced in 2008 due to fiscal restraints. We hope to expand on these when possible.

Recycling

The Division is continuing the increase in paper recycling through city drop-off sites and commercial collection programs. Current market constraints have slowed the expansion.

Additional electronics collection events are planned for 2009.

Public education is seen as a key to increased recycling as more people become aware of existing recycling opportunities and the positive environmental benefits from recycling.

attachment i

ESTIMATED COSTS FOR CURBSIDE COLLECTION OF RECYCLABLES

(Present year 2009 dollars; cost of debt or bonds not included)

Note: Does not include costs of a Materials Recovery Facility or transportation to a nearby Material Recovery Facility (MRF)

COLLECTION COSTS

Weekly Collection

Biweekly Collection

Start-Up Costs

Collection vehicles	\$4,000,000	\$200,000 ea. plus 3 standby	\$2,200,000	\$200,000 ea. plus 2 standby
Field Supervisor vehicles	66,000	3 vehicles @ \$22,000 ea.	44,000	2 vehicles @ \$22,000 ea.
Recycling containers	900,000	45,000 @ \$20 ea.	1,360,000	68,000 @ \$20 ea.
Miscellaneous	50,000	Computers, radios, etc.	45,000	Computers, radios, etc.
Operations facility/land	750,000	Office, parking, crew area	750,000	Office, parking, crew area
SUBTOTAL	\$5,766,000		\$4,399,000	

Annual Operational Costs

Operator I	\$1,064,000	19 @ \$56,000 incl/benefits	\$616,000	11 @ \$56,000 incl/benefits
Field Supervisor	180,000	3 @ \$60,000 incl/benefits	120,000	2 @ \$60,000 incl/benefits
Laborer	90,000	2 @ \$45,000 incl/benefits	90,000	2 @ \$45,000 incl/benefits
Administrative Support position	45,000	\$45,000 incl/benefits	45,000	\$45,000 incl/benefits
Collection vehicle fuel	210,834	\$14,040 fuel/collection vehicle	111,618	\$14,040 fuel/collection vehicle
Collection vehicle maintenance	174,600	\$9,700 maint. ea.	106,700	\$9,700 maint. ea.
Supervisor vehicle fuel/maintenance	9,000	\$2,000 fuel; \$1,000 maint. ea.	6,000	\$2,000 fuel; \$1,000 maint. ea.
Recycling container replacement	160,000	8,000 @ \$20 ea.	160,000	8,000 @ \$20 ea.
Education/promotion	30,000	Newspapers, radio, fliers, etc.	30,000	Newspapers, radio, fliers, etc.
Utilities, overhead	12,000	Gas, electrical, custodial, etc.	12,000	Gas, electrical, custodial, etc.
Miscellaneous	25,000	Uniforms, office supplies, etc.	25,000	Uniforms, office supplies, etc.
Contingency	75,000	Unexpected expenses	75,000	Unexpected expenses
SUBTOTAL	\$2,075,434		\$1,397,318	

TOTAL COSTS OVER 7 YEARS

\$20,294,038

\$14,180,226

AVERAGE COST PER YEAR

\$2,899,148

\$2,025,747

Assumptions

Households participating (excludes multi-family complexes of 3 or more units): 22,000

One person collection vehicle with curbside sorting

Cost of fuel/gallon (in dollars) 3.18

(Source: Department of Energy/EIA, December, 2008)

Actual collection time/day (hours) 7

Stops/route/day - weekly: 320

Collection vehicles/day - weekly: 17 (hybrid vehicles)

Stops/route/day - biweekly: 300

Collection vehicles/day - biweekly: 9 (hybrid vehicles)

Four routes/week/collection vehicle

225 miles/week/collection vehicle = 11,700 mi./yr.

Collection vehicle gets 3.0 mpg on route

Costs amortized over 7 years

attachment ii

ESTIMATED COSTS FOR MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY

(Present year 2009 dollars; cost of debt or bonds not included)

CAPITAL COSTS

Processing Building	\$1,040,000	In addition to office/crew area
Supervisor vehicle	22,000	1 vehicle @ \$22,000
Processing Equipment	900,000	Balers, forklifts, conveyors, etc.
Miscellaneous	25,000	Computer, safety equipment, etc.
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$1,987,000</u>	

Annual Operational Costs

Laborers	\$270,000	6 @ \$45,000 incl/benefits
Supervisor	60,000	1 @ \$60,000 incl/benefits
Administrative Support position	45,000	\$45,000 incl/benefits
Processing equipment maintenance	20,000	Fuel, lubricants, moving parts, etc.
Supervisor vehicle fuel/maintenance	3,000	\$2,000 fuel; \$1,000 maint.
Utilities, overhead	48,000	Gas, electric, custodial, etc.
Contingency	75,000	unexpected expenses
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$521,000</u>	

TOTAL COSTS OVER 7 YEARS	\$5,634,000
AVERAGE COST PER YEAR	\$804,857

Assumptions

Cost of fuel/gallon (in dollars)	3.18
Costs amortized over 7 years	

attachment iii

ESTIMATED COSTS FOR TRANSPORTATION OF RECYCLABLES TO A NEARBY MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY (MRF)

Closest MRF is the Deffenbaugh facility in Edwardsville, KS

(Present year 2009 dollars; cost of debt or bonds not included)

<u>ADDITIONAL COSTS</u>	<u>Weekly Collection</u>		<u>Biweekly Collection</u>	
<u>Start-Up Costs</u>				
Collection vehicles	\$600,000	\$200,000 ea.	\$400,000	\$200,000 ea.
Collection vehicle replacement	<u>\$3,300,000</u>	20 @ \$220,000 ea. (0.75 cost*)	<u>\$1,815,000</u>	11 @ \$220,000 ea. (0.75 cost*)
SUBTOTAL	\$3,900,000		\$2,215,000	
<u>Annual Operational Costs</u>				
Operator I	\$168,000	3 @ \$56,000 incl/benefits	\$112,000	2 @ \$56,000 incl/benefits
Collection vehicle fuel	205,810	\$9,707 fuel/collection vehicle	113,195	\$9,707 fuel/collection vehicle
Collection vehicle maintenance	100,000	\$5,000 maint. ea.	55,000	\$5,000 maint. ea.
Turnpike tolls	33,280	One trip/day	18,304	One trip/day
Contingency	<u>25,000</u>	Unexpected expenses	<u>25,000</u>	Unexpected expenses
SUBTOTAL	\$532,090		\$323,499	
TOTAL COSTS OVER 7 YEARS	\$7,624,627		\$4,479,495	
AVERAGE COST PER YEAR	\$1,089,232		\$639,928	

Assumptions with transportation of recyclables to a nearby MRF

Households participating (excludes multi-family complexes of 3 or more units): 22,000

One person collection vehicle with curbside sorting

Cost of fuel/gallon (in dollars) 3.18

(Source: Department of Energy/EIA, December, 2008)

Actual collection time/day (hours) 6

Stops/route/day - weekly: 275

Additional coll. vehicles - weekly: 3 (hybrid vehicles)

Stops/route/day - biweekly: 250

Additional coll. vehicles - biweekly: 2 (hybrid vehicles)

Four routes/week/collection vehicle

Additional 280 miles/week/collection vehicle = 14,560

mi./yr.

Collection vehicle gets 5.4 mpg on highway

Turnpike toll per round trip \$8.00

* Collection vehicles replaced every 4 years (allocate 0.75 of cost to 7-year analysis)
Costs amortized over 7 years

City of Lawrence
Public Works Department
MEMORANDUM

Submitted via consent
agenda, 12-1-09

TO: David L. Corliss, City Manager
Chuck Soules, Public Works Director

FROM: Tammy Bennett, Assistant Public Works Director
Bob Yoos, Solid Waste Manager
Kathy Richardson, WRR Operations Supervisor

CC: Sustainability Advisory Board
Cynthia Wagner, Assistant City Manager

DATE: November 23, 2009

Attached is a draft 12 month pilot program recommendation for a subscriber based curbside recycling program for your review and consideration.

Background information:

In July 2009, the Lawrence City Commission established the following goal statement:
Facilitate public discussion and review of possible city sponsored curbside recycling program, including explore feasibility of a pilot program and in-depth review of possible program costs and benefits.

The Sustainability Advisory Board has also expressed long-standing interest in establishing a more robust curbside recycling program either operated by or contracted through the City.

The matrix attached outlines a variety of options to expand convenient recycling opportunities for Lawrence residents. The expansion of recycling options can be designed to meet a number of goals, and the matrix addresses options for different goal statements, presenting some of the advantages and disadvantages of each. The matrix was reviewed by the Sustainability Advisory Board, and they added an option that they preferred, based on their experiences and the input they received.

Recommendation:

Two pilot programs are presented, in addition to several alternatives.

Sustainability Advisory Board recommendation is for a public / private partnership to increase curbside recycling. The program would include a significant outreach and education campaign – ***Lawrence DOES have curbside***. The [recommendation developed by SAB](#) is the first one listed in the matrix. It has a mandatory registration requirement for companies to be included in the media and outreach. No funding source has been identified for 2010.

City staff developed a pilot program in response to their understanding of the City Commission goal that included a city-operated pilot curbside program. The pilot project suggested for possible roll-out in 2010 is a city-operated subscription service that would be priced competitive with market rates (e.g.,

existing providers). Many of the details will be determined, but the [preliminary program](#) structure is outlined on page 2 of this memo. Other options are also listed to facilitate and stimulate discussion of curbside recycling in Lawrence.

Next steps:

The Public Works Department is forwarding the matrix of options to the City Manager. The City Manager will determine when and how to transmit the information to the City Commission. The information has been reviewed by the Sustainability Advisory Board, with their recommendation added over the course of three meetings. Local curbside companies were notified of the project and several participated in the Sustainability Advisory Board meetings.

Please let us know how you would like to proceed.

Recycling discussion matrix

PILOT PROGRAM for public / private partnership to increase curbside Outreach program and campaign: <i>Lawrence DOES have curbside</i> Submitted by SAB to supplement original report		
	How it might look	Public / private partnership to support existing curbside companies, increased outreach campaign on Lawrence Does have curbside .
	How to accomplish	<p>SAB recommends recycling collection providers and recycling centers be registered by the City of Lawrence. Mandatory registration would require companies to provide City with information about collection, processing, and/or end-markets for materials, costs of services, service packages offered, and number of customers.</p> <p>The City would undertake a major education and outreach campaign – Lawrence DOES have curbside. The campaign would promote the curbside recycling options that are registered through the City. The outreach campaign would include newspaper, radio, web resources (budget to be determined). Another option would be to provide a consistent recycling bin with both city logo and company info for the private companies to give to their customers, as part of a branding or outreach effort. Data will be collected from registered haulers at the beginning of the outreach campaign and throughout process, to estimate effect on number of households participating in addition to any changes measured on the overall community recycling rate.</p>
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support local businesses who have been engaged in the efforts of curbside recycling for many years ▪ Deliver a consistent, positive message about the availability of local curbside recycling ▪ Mandatory registration of recycling companies will ensure the city receives accurate, timely data on customer counts, materials collected, and end markets ▪ If budget is available to provide uniform bins for materials, increases neighborhood visibility of curbside recycling programs ▪ Lawrence residents retain choice of curbside recycling with provider of their choice or drop-off opportunities
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Does not address concerns expressed by some that community is vulnerable to losing recycling outlets (many curbside companies use existing drop-offs for disposal of some of the materials) ▪ Subscription only service may not meet goals to increase curbside collection for “maybe” recyclers (those who might put out recycling if they were already paying for it and it was collected at the curb) ▪ Differential in services, materials collected and pricing ▪ May not provide revenue to cover costs of major education campaign and/or purchase of bins/totes ▪ Need to define what collection providers and recycling centers are covered by mandatory registration. For instance, is it just the curbside collectors plus the drop-off centers we think of (e.g., WalMart and 12th Street Bargain Center) or does it also include places that take oil, batteries, cfl's, or electronics for recycling?

PILOT PROGRAM for curbside collection**Submitted by staff per CMO direction and CC goal statement****City subscription service, bi-weekly, 12 month pilot (collection and material processing)**

	How it might look	Bi-weekly residential curbside collection for a fee, by subscription, provided by the City of Lawrence. Pilot program would be limited to the number of households that could be handled by one truck (initial estimate is 2500 maximum)
	How to accomplish	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Keep rear load refuse truck that would have been traded in 2010 and dedicate to the recycling pilot▪ Hire 3 staff persons (2 would be temporary full time, with a regular full-time operator for the truck)▪ Recycling truck will operate 4 days per week with two person crew▪ Materials would be taken to closest possible material recovery facility by agreement (likely Deffenbaugh in Edwardsville)▪ Administrative staff would be required for establishing and coordinating new services (customer service, billing, inquiries). 50% time would be required for curbside account set ups, coordination. Other 50% time would administrative tasks for WRR (HHW appointments, compost access for landscapers, special events organization) [note, the division has a request pending to fill existing part-time temp for these tasks]▪ Subscription service would be billed through utility bills, similar to the way roll-out trash carts are currently managed▪ Monthly fee would be set initially to minimize advantage or disadvantage over the private companies currently providing services (e.g., at market rate roughly) -- \$10 per month (tbd)
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Provide 12 months of real data on all costs and advantages▪ Pilot program could be implemented relatively quickly but does not commit community one way or another▪ Does not require all rate-payers to pay for curbside but gives the option to those who want it▪ Will have least impact considered to the value or business of private companies providing services (curbside collection or drop-off / processing)▪ Good opportunity to "ramp up" to some of these services▪ In years 2 and beyond, costs will be adjusted to capture program costs more accurately, once minimum customer base is established
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Still a subscription based service▪ Competes directly with existing businesses (curbside & drop-off)▪ Does not realize the efficiencies of collecting from every house▪ Using older vehicle, and no back up equipment▪ Setting rates by market in first year, not cost of services▪ Distance to the closest facility is 35 miles one-way.
	IF it works well	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Can chose to expand the services on an incremental basis as business demands. For instance, in 2011, would move temporary employees to regular payroll, add one additional truck and one crew (driver / loader)
	IF it doesn't work	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Phase out subscription services. End temporary employees or reassign to vacant positions. Sell rear-load truck, as had originally been planned

ALTERNATIVES		
Goal assumption: The City Commission plans to establish curbside recycling for single family residential customers city-wide.		
Long term recommendation: The City will ensure access to the most reliable services if the city operates its own material recovery facility. Control of materials collected, marketing, operations. (3 to 5 years)		
City curbside program (collection and material processing)		
	How it might look	City would have collection equipment and a local material recovery facility for processing materials collected. Some very rough cost estimates are included in the report attached. Cost estimates provided in attached report , depending on how program is structured.
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will provide most secure program for long-term recycling by building and managing our own material recovery facility ▪ Maintain control of program—Items collected ▪ Customer service will be high – single point of contact (city) for recycling and solid waste ▪
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cost of capitalization and start up (facility, equipment, staffing) ▪ Amount of time for implementation (locating facility, constructing, installation of equipment, etc.)
City curbside program (collection only, delivering materials to established material recovery facility)		
	How it might look	City would have collection equipment and staffing for curbside collection of materials. Loads would be hauled to contracted material recovery facility, such as the Deffenbaugh facility in Edwardsville. Cost estimates provided in attached report , depending on how program is structured.
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Less expensive start up. Will require capitalization of equipment and some staffing, but not facility ▪ Customer service will be high – single point of contact for recycling collection and solid waste
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Distance to the closest facility is 35 miles one-way. Estimated time per load to deliver is 1 hour 40 minutes (round trip including dump time) ▪ Cost of capitalization and start up (equipment only) ▪ Will not control material streams since we don't manage final outlet
Private curbside program (collection and material processing) by RFP		
	How it might look	City would contract for turnkey curbside collection services with a private company.
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fastest implementation ▪ Least expensive for start up, utilizing equipment and facilities of contracted company ▪ External validation of costs and expenses
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Customer service not integrated ▪ Do not control program (materials collected or customer service) ▪ Distance to the closest facility is 35 miles one-way
Private curbside program ++ (collection and material processing) by RFP plus \$2-3 fee per month for long-term funding of local material recovery facility		
	How it might look	City would contract for turnkey curbside collection services with a private company. Additional fee would be added to monthly billing to build funds to finance construction of local material recovery facility. Local facility would benefit community whether collection services are completed with city crews or contracted.
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fast implementation

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Less expensive (like contracting) but builds solid funding structure for long-term sustainability of programs ▪ External validation of costs and expenses
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Same disadvantages as private curbside program, but with an eye toward increasing sustainability of programming long-term
Private curbside program – multiple companies (collection and material processing)		
	How it might look	Several options on structure such as dividing community into designated areas and assigning collectors to areas
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supports local, existing businesses with established customer bases ▪ Citizens have options for vendors, IF contractors are not assigned designated areas
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lose economy of scale ▪ Must verify contractors have established, reliable outlets for materials ▪ May be chaotic from customer service perspective (who manages calls, who manages complaints) ▪ Varying levels of service ▪ Difficult to manage / monitor outlets and processing ▪ Dependent on multiple small companies, most of whom depend on other companies for materials outlets ▪ Challenge to handle monthly billing processes
Goal assumption: The City Commission wants to increase the convenience and access to recycling opportunities, without implementing full curbside program.		
Partner with local curbside companies to promote services		
	How it might look	City would provide promotional services for curbside companies. Information on curbside collection companies would be distributed regularly with utility billing so residents who wish to contract for services have the information readily available. Information also provided through the media (LJW and UDK) to cover residents who do not receive utility bills.
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimal cost to city but provide residents with information they want on curbside collection companies ▪ Supports local, existing businesses with established customer bases
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dependent on multiple small companies, most of whom depend on other companies for materials outlets ▪ Subscription only service may not meet goals to increase curbside collection for “maybe” recyclers (those who might put out recycling if they were already paying for it and it was collected at the curb) ▪ Differential in services, materials collected and pricing
Expanded drop off locations for recyclables		
	How it might look	<p>Variety of possibilities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ duplication of Wal-Mart style drop-off facility in one or more additional locations ▪ contract placement of multiple-material collections containers (example at Wal-Mart parking lot off Wanamaker in Topeka)
	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased convenience over current system (more drop off locations) ▪ Public would not feel “dependent” on Wal-Mart or 12th St Bargain Center for recycling
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cost if constructing Wal-Mart style collection facilities (facility, equipment, staffing)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No centralization of materials that would maximize possible revenues ▪ Drop-off sites (unstaffed) become dumping grounds for other materials ▪ Code compliance (site planning, aesthetics) for multiple sites ▪ Shipping materials from multiple drop-off sites with no central material recovery facility

ATTACH:

[Matrix from rate study](#)

[Olathe program description](#)

[Evaluation of Solid Waste Diversion Strategies report](#)

attachment info from rate study

Comparison of Residential Solid Waste Rates and Services for 2010

Information current as of May 2009

City	Once a Week Trash Collection proposed 2009 Increase	Yard Waste	Tire Collection	Bulk Item Collection	Appliance Disposal	Curbside recycling	Public / private	Curbside fee
Lawrence	\$13.10 (2009 Rate) \$13.76 (5% increase proposed for 2010)	Free	Free	Free	Free	yes	private	varies \$12 to \$15 / month
Columbia	\$14.42 (2009 Rate) (No increase proposed for 2010)	Free	No	Free	\$10.00/item	yes	public	included (landfill fees subsidize)
Emporia	\$12.79 (2009 Rate) \$14.07 (10% increase proposed for 2010)	No	\$2.51-5.40/tire	No	\$22.80/item	yes	private	\$15 / month
Leavenworth	\$15.09 (2009 Rate) \$16.30 (8% increase proposed for 2010) (Also property tax subsidy)	No	Free	Free	Free	No	na	na
Manhattan (Private Haulers)	\$18.00 (2009 Rate) (possible increase for 2010)	No	\$10.00 to 25.00/tire	\$10.00 to 50.00/item	\$40.00/item	No	na	na
Newton	\$18.75 (2009 Rate)	No	\$6.00/tire	\$15.00 per item	\$20.00 per item	yes	public	included & mandatory
Olathe	\$16.00 (2009 Rate) \$18.50 (15.7% increase proposed for 2010)	Free	\$5.00/tire	\$16.00/15 min.	\$30.00/item	yes	public	\$3.29 (2009) free (2010)
Overland Park (Private Haulers)	\$13.75 - 18.00 (2009 Rate)	\$40.00 per year	Up to \$35.00 per tire	\$35.00 and up / item	\$60.00- 75.00/item	varies by vendor	private	\$2.95 / mn
Salina	\$12.60 - 14.91 (2009 Rate)	Free	Up to \$22.00 per tire	\$20.10 and up	No	yes	public	\$10 initial + \$4.90 / mn
Shawnee County	\$11.44 - 16.50 (2009 Rate) (5% increase possible for 2010)	No	No	Free (1 item/week)	\$45.00 minimum charge	yes	private	varies \$15 / month
Wichita (Private Haulers)	\$17.00 - \$19.80 (2009 Rate)	No	No	\$20.00 to 100.00/item	No	yes	private	\$4.50 / mn and up

CITY OF OLATHE PROGRAM

City of Olathe operated a subscription based curbside recycling program for 12 years. The subscription service provided curbside recycling to approximately 1/3 of households, and was subsidized by the regular single family residential trash rate.

Solid waste is collected in Olathe and transported to Hamm's Landfill through a public / private partnership transfer station. The city currently pays approximately \$30 per ton for solid waste at the transfer point. The transfer station is reaching capacity. The community must rebuild or expand the transfer station or decrease waste managed through it. The City of Olathe commissioned a study of alternatives and recommendations from RW Beck. Based on that analysis, in 2010, Olathe will move to a citywide program. The citywide program will delay the reconstruction or expansion of the transfer station.

RW Beck Study: Scope of services and results can be attached. The RW Beck Study was \$53,500 for the initial 6 phases, with the final 3 phases being charged on a per hour basis.

How the city-wide program will be implemented:

- The city is transitioning 5 vehicles currently assigned to weekly curbside recycling collection *by subscription* to bi-weekly citywide curbside collection.
- The city is adding one truck and operating by re-assigning out of service side-load trucks to the recycling function rather than trading it in.
- There will be a total of six trucks assigned – 4 side-loaders and 2 curb-sorters.
- The side-load trucks will transport collected materials directly to Deffenbaugh, roughly 10 miles.
- The curb-sorters are less efficient at the single stream collection. Material from the curb-sorters will be transferred to 40-yard roll-off containers to be transported to Deffenbaugh.
- Total trip time per load transported: 1 hour
- Estimated revenue from materials dumped at the material recovery facility: \$25 / ton
- Containers: using 65-gallon containers provided by the city of Olathe
- Long-term goal is to build a material recovery facility for municipal recycling. The City of Olathe will complete an RFP in 2010 for a MRF and transfer station operations. They might be interested in partnering with other communities along the K-10 corridor, if other communities were willing to make the commitment to the MRF.

Description of solid waste program for 2010:

- Single family residential rates in 2010 will be \$18.50 per month. The residential rate will include:
 - Once a week collection of trash from a 90-gallon cart
 - Once a week collection of yard waste
 - Bi-weekly collection of single-stream recycling using 65-gallon cart (no glass)
- Fees for additional services. Any item that cannot fit inside a 90 gallon cart is considered a bulk item. Bulk items are charged as follows:
 - \$17.50 minimum per stop, up to 15 minutes of collection time
 - \$30 per item containing Freon (air conditioner, refrigerators)

Solid Waste Connection fees. The city requires a one-time solid waste connection fee of \$170 per water meter. The fee covers the initial capital outlay for the carts provided for trash and recycling services, plus 1/2000 of a truck. The solid waste connection fees were implement in 2007, in conjunction with a new rate model developed by RW Beck.

Date: October 5, 2009

To: City of Lawrence City Commissioners

From: Daniel Poull, Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB)

RE: SAB Waste Reduction and Recycling Recommendations

This memo seeks to inform the City's pending audit of the Solid Waste Division and the Commission's pending review of the Solid Waste Division's most recent report, *Evaluation of Waste Diversion Strategies for Lawrence 2009 Update*.¹ A draft of staff's most recent report was reviewed by SAB in July and August of this year.

As part of ongoing and pending policy analysis and discussions related to waste management in Lawrence, the SAB wishes to reiterate and highlight the following recommendations:

1. **We support the establishment of a quantitative waste reduction and recycling goal accompanied by an appropriate benchmark.**² For instance, the City would establish an annual goal for reducing the tons of garbage disposed. We believe that the goal should be established for a specified time period (i.e. 5 years) and that objectives be developed to meet the goal.
2. **We support implementation of unit-based pricing (pay as you throw, or PAYT3) for solid waste collection, for all residential users in Lawrence, including multi-family housing with 4 units or less.** Implementing PAYT has successfully created a direct economic incentive to generate less waste and increase recycling in numerous municipalities, including University towns like ours. A volume-based rate structure creates a clear connection between the level of services provided and the cost for those services.⁴ This type of rate structure would incentivize recycling and help create equity, ensuring that all residents to pay an appropriate share of the City's overall collection and disposal costs.
3. **We support the creation of a Citywide residential curbside recycling program which will provide uniform access to curbside recycling program for all residents**⁵.

¹

<http://www.ci.lawrence.ks.us/recycling/pdf/EVALUATION%20OF%20WASTE%20DIVERSION%20STRATEGIES%20FOR%20LAWRENCE%20-%202009.pdf>

² Such as a measurement of the pounds generated per person/day.

³ <http://www.epa.gov/waste/conserve/tools/payt/index.htm>

⁴ Under the City's current rate structure and policy of unlimited refuse collection, there is little relation between how much a resident pays for solid waste collection service and how much service a resident receives. In a report provided to the City of Tulsa, R. W. Beck asserts that when residents are allowed to place unlimited quantities of material at the curb for collection, with no financial implications, residents rarely attempt to limit their disposal needs. In order to provide residents with a financial incentive to minimize the overall quantity of material set-out, many cities have implemented a volume based fee structure.

<http://www.tulsaworld.com/webextra/content/items/trashstudy.pdf>

⁵ In regard to the recently proposed subscription 'pilot' curbside program, it should be noted that R. W. Beck has found that subscription type curbside programs are substantially less effective than recycling services that are incorporated into the standard residential solid waste collection services thus such an effort may not provide accurate or representative data.

4. **We encourage consideration of public-private partnerships for the provision of curbside recycling services within the City.** As reported by the Institute for Local Self Reliance, on a per-ton basis, sorting and processing recyclables alone sustains 10 times more jobs than landfilling or incineration.⁶ We see strong synergies between recycling and local economic development, and we encourage the City to collaborate with other communities, and small and local businesses.
5. So long as the City continues to rely exclusively on the private sector for provision of residential curbside recycling services, **we recommend the mandatory registration of both private curbside recycling haulers and privately owned recycling facilities operating within the City limits.** In addition, to further increase the visibility and credibility of current private curbside services, we suggest that the City consider providing private haulers with uniform collection containers for recyclables collected at the curb.
6. Yard waste represents the vast majority of our City's 35% recycling rate. **We applaud the City's yard waste recycling efforts, and strongly support its continuation.**
7. **We recommend that the City pursue targeted waste reduction activities** in collaboration with those entities/sources known to generate large volumes of waste within our community (i.e. industrial and institutional waste generators, including colleges and universities; wastes from apartment move-outs, and wastes generated during construction and demolition activities).⁷
8. **We encourage the City Auditor to examine current commercial solid waste collection rates and to review commercial services provided by the City.** Collection efficiencies and possible sources of additional revenue may exist within certain cost-centers (e.g.: roll off and commercial recycling services).
9. In light of the recent sale of the Hamm's landfill,⁸ and other solid waste planning developments in the Kansas City Metropolitan area that may significantly impact regional landfill capacity,⁹ **we strongly suggest that the City of Lawrence engage in more proactive and comprehensive solid waste planning.** Such planning should include regional and long range capacity projections and some effort toward full cost accounting.¹⁰ Further, we recommend that a resident of Lawrence be appointed by the Mayor and the City Commission, from a list of not less than three people chosen by the Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB), to participate in the City/County solid waste planning committee.

The Commission's consideration of SAB's recommendations is greatly appreciated. We look forward to working with the Commission and City staff to improve services, reduce waste disposal and increase waste diversion.

⁶ <http://www.ilsr.org/recycling/recyclingmeansbusiness.html>

⁷ <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/partnerships/wastewise/wrr/prevent.htm>

⁸ <http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2009/aug/28/hamm-inc-sells-investors-eyes-growth/>

⁹ http://jcd.jocogov.org/solid_waste/SWPlanImplementationUpdateCoWv.pdf

¹⁰ <http://www.epa.gov/osw/conservation/tools/fca/epadocs.htm#fcahandbook>